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Friday May 15 1980
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THE TIMES

The Times Cook:
Just a matter
of thyme, page 10

Afghan pact proposals could lead to Russian withdrawal

put forward a political settlement plan last night that could lead to the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. It called for talks with neighbouring countries without preconditions, and, however, the cessation of all hostile acts while negotiating continues. The key elements, with Soviet approval, include agreements with Pakistan and Iran on normalizing relations and a guarantee by Washington and Moscow of the accords.

Moscow backs peace initiative

Michael Binyon
May 14
Days before the first top-level talks between Soviet and Afghan statesmen since the invasion of Afghanistan, the Soviet Government today put forward a political settlement plan for an overall agreement to the withdrawal of troops from the country. The plan calls for bilateral talks with Pakistan and Iran on normalizing relations, political guarantees by the Soviet Union and the Afghan States for an overall agreement to the withdrawal of troops from the country. The plan is a key element of the Soviet peace initiative, which should give "a clearly defined commitment not to out any subversive activity against Afghanistan, including the territories of third States." The plan is a key element of the Soviet peace initiative, which should give "a clearly defined commitment not to out any subversive activity against Afghanistan, including the territories of third States." The plan is a key element of the Soviet peace initiative, which should give "a clearly defined commitment not to out any subversive activity against Afghanistan, including the territories of third States."



Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary, speaking to a union rally at Mayesbrook Park, Essex, yesterday.

Patchy response by workers to TUC call for day of action

By Craig Seton
Response to the Trade Union Congress call for a day of action across Britain yesterday was patchy. Trade union support was most solid in Scotland, South Wales and on Merseyside, particularly among miners and dockers. Transport difficulties were the most persistent, but in many areas the response was lukewarm, and most industrial and commercial concerns appeared to have escaped serious disruption. The great majority of people appeared to have rejected the call and had made it a day of determination to work. The Confederation of British Industry said between 90 and 95 per cent of the employees of member companies had worked. Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, said he was "not dissatisfied with the total result" and predicted that the labour movement would keep pressure on the Government. But there was little likelihood of the day of action being repeated at an early date. Tens of thousands of trade unionists marched in protest at Government policy in most large cities and towns, but employers in key industries reported that many people had worked normally. Public transport was widely disrupted, but most people who intended to work reported for duty. While most commercial concerns in London reported a virtually normal day, 30,000 Welsh miners closed all but one of the principal pits, and only four of the 16 in Scotland worked. In the north, only 4,000 of its 140,000 workforce had failed to report for duty, 2,000 of them at the Albion plants in Glasgow, which was closed. The TUC can claim the response in Scotland as the most effective, with shipbuilding, coal mining, the car and steel industries most badly affected. But Mr John Davidson, director of the Scottish CBI, described the day of action there as the "flop of the year". The TUC estimated that more than 130 rallies and demonstrations had taken place throughout the country. One of the biggest, involving between 5,000 and 10,000 people, was in Liverpool, where the port was brought to a standstill when fewer than 100 of the 5,000 dockers worked. In London, 15,000 people took part in rallies and marches, according to the TUC, and a further 3,000 in demonstrations throughout the south-east. The National Coal Board said that 106 of 219 pits were fully or partly working. In Yorkshire, most of the areas 62 pits were closed. Services at Euston, St Pancras and Paddington railway stations in London were shut. London commuter services operated patchily, with practically no services on Western Region and none on London Midland. Absent signallers were mainly responsible. The London Underground services were almost normal, but only 60 per cent of buses were operating. Thousands of motorists crowded the roads in London and in other cities and towns where there was severe congestion on some routes. Fewer than 20,000 of the country's 708,000 civil servants were reported to be on strike. The National Union of Teachers reported that 60 of its 558 local associations had decided to stage a half day strike, and most children attended school normally. One of the most successfully disrupted areas was Fleet Street, where action by print union workers stopped all national newspapers except the Daily Express and the Star, of which a total of 180,000 copies were printed in Manchester. The Engineering Employers Federation estimated that 90 per cent of its members had arrived for work. ICI, with 88,000 workers, reported less absenteeism than usual. Ford said production at most vehicle plants was normal. Unilever reported near-normal working and GEC said most of its 160,000 employees were working. Local government administrative staff worked almost normally, although National and Local Government Officers' Association pickets were on duty at many town halls. None of the regional health authorities reported a need for emergency measures. Hospitals worked almost normally, although members of unions involved supported demonstrations and protests in many areas. In Northern Ireland, the TUC call was largely rejected. Buses and trains were unaffected, though between 40 and 50 per cent of the 7,000 workers employed by Harland and Wolff stayed away. In Wales, the miners provided solid support for the TUC's call and 35 pits were shut. According to the Engineering Employers Federation in South Wales, only 19 of 159 affiliated companies had difficulties. Holidaymakers were little affected. At Heathrow Airport, flights left normally and only 1,500 of 56,000 airport workers turned up at a day of action meeting. Most families received their delivery of milk and mail was also delivered.

Nato ministers present a united front on Iran and Afghanistan

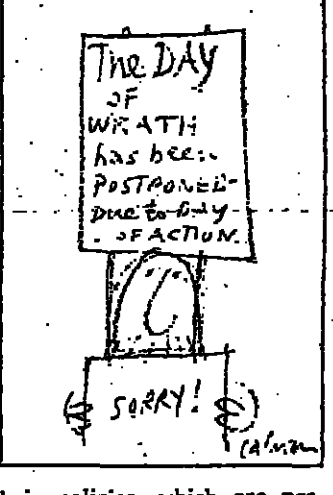
Michael Hornsby and
y Stenhop
May 14
to foreign and defence ministers ended a four-hour session today with a unanimous condemnation of the invasion of Afghanistan and a call to the Iranian authorities to release the American hostages "immediately and unconditionally." Francis Pym, Britain's Secretary of State, also urged the allies to pack a new equipment for the forces, including a doubling of the number of tanks in the British Army of the Rhine (BAOR). Afghanistan, the ministers said, was a "total and edict withdrawal of all forces" and that the people of Afghanistan be free to shape their future without outside interference. A separate declaration on expressed "continued concern over the illegal occupation of United States personnel and property in Iran in flagrant violation of international law."

No crowing in public by the Government

By Fred Emery
Political Editor
The Prime Minister last night remained uncharacteristically silent, deliberately refraining from venting publicly her satisfaction over popular defiance of the TUC, at least as the Government saw it. Doubtless, Mrs Thatcher will find the opportunity to pass considered judgment today at Commons question time. But last night, although Cabinet ministers in the Lords seemed not to be on the same wave-length as the Government's word in Whitehall was no crowing, let the facts speak for themselves. There was no public crowing, also, because the Government admitted that, despite the big effort to get to work, there had been disruption to ordinary life. The Government, therefore, discreetly let it be known that it was grateful to all those who made the effort to overcome transport difficulties, thus proving they shared the Government's view of the futility of the TUC's call. But some ministers were also privately grateful to the TUC for the damage they believed it had done to itself. An extraordinary opportunity to turn the tables on trade union power is seen, if not yet with total clarity how it might be done. Psychologically, however, the Government believes it won "a victory for the people" as Mr Norman Fowler, Minister of Transport, said. The Prime Minister was kept up to date with reports from round the country. Assessments are expected to be given at today's meeting of the Cabinet from the employment industry and transport ministries. It might even emerge that the ministerial mood will be conciliatory. Mr Fowler, speaking the BBC's World at One, insisted that the Government certainly took the TUC's views seriously.

Opposition to Government policy will continue, Mr Murray says

By Paul Roudledge
Labour Editor
The TUC is to continue its campaign of political opposition to the Government's social and economic policies, but there is little likelihood of an early repetition of the "day of action" which disrupted the country yesterday. After studying reports from union organizers of strikes, marches, and rallies last night, Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, said: "The campaign will continue as long as it is needed, of that I am absolutely certain. It is no particular joy to us to divert our energies to this sort of action. We would much rather be arguing with the Government and working out an alternative strategy with the Government. The sooner we start the better." The TUC's "inner cabinet", its Finance and General Purposes Committee, meets next Monday to hold an inquiry into the May 14 day of protest, and the full general council will discuss the unions' next move two days later. Mr Murray went on: "We will be waiting for signs from the politicians that they are having another think about their policies, which are producing massive unemployment and rampant inflation." In the meantime, the TUC campaign will be continuing along the general lines already pursued. "It is not so much a question of the TUC building up pressure. That pressure is building up in the country. There is no doubt about that. One of the purposes of the day of action was to focus that pressure."

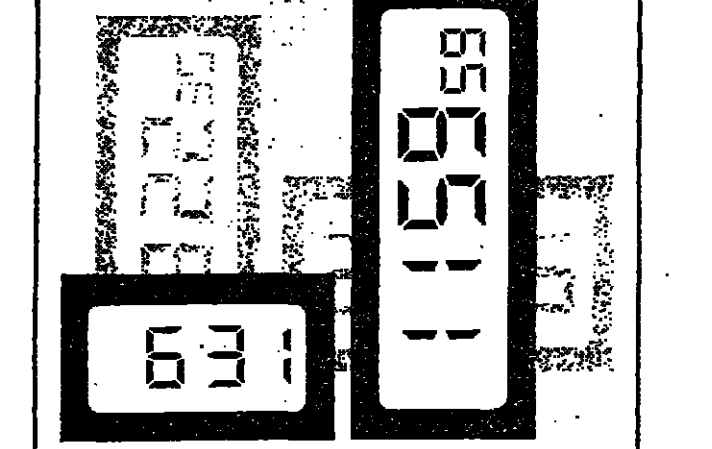


Average earnings rise by more than 20 per cent despite steel strike

By David Blake
Economics Editor
Pay increased by more than 3 per cent in March, making the fastest annual rise in more than four years. The underlying annual rate of increase in average earnings was just over 20 per cent and the Department of Employment is reconciled to a further jump in April. The March increase in average earnings was greater than expected as it had been thought that earnings would be depressed by the direct and indirect effects of the steel strike. However, it seems that other special factors, most notably back pay, cancelled out this during the month. The increase of 20.1 per cent in average earnings over the level in March, 1978, is thought to be a fair indication of the likely underlying trend. The figure is the same as that recorded in January but higher than February's figure, when special factors connected with the steel strike depressed the index. In spite of recent government denials that its own pay increases have been an important

Time: the first investment to make in property

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C loses hand after bomb attack at police station

David Nicholson-Lord
young police constable his right hand and injured eye and suspected injuries after a bomb attack at a police station, south London, in the hours of yesterday morning. A motive has been discovered for the attack and the police are investigating a link with terrorism. The explosive was packed in a small orange torch of type sold widely in branches of the Chemists. It was over on the counter at the station, apparently checked on by Police Constable Peter Hickling, aged 19, a stationary constable who was standing at the reception desk coming off foot patrol. The device blew up, shattering windows and ripping off the door. Other officers, a sergeant and three constables were taken to St Thomas' Hospital suffering a shock and minor injuries to the explosion, which was about 4.20 am. All were later released. PC Hickling was said to be in a satisfactory condition after a four-hour operation in which his hand was amputated. He had penetrating injuries

Dearest Saudi oil may add 2p to petrol price

Saudi Arabia is raising the price of its crude oil by 52 pence to \$28 and backdating the increase to April 1. It may put British petrol prices up by 2p a gallon for four star brands. British Petroleum and Shell have made major price discoveries. The Shell find in the North Sea could be the largest field discovered. BP has discovered a second oil reservoir at Kimmeridge, Dorset. Page 19

Van Gogh painting sold for £2.31m

Art sales in New York have attracted record bids. A Van Gogh, sold by Christie's from the Henry Ford II collection, fetched about £2.31m, more than twice what was expected. The buyer's name was not revealed. Sotheby's sold 40 paintings from the Garbisch collection and Christie's sold 10 from the Ford collection. Page 8

Penalties beat Arsenal

Arsenal were beaten by Valencia on penalties in the final of the European Cup Winners' Cup in Brussels. There was no score after extra time. Valencia led 3-4 on penalties and Rix's final kick for Arsenal was saved by the goalkeeper. Report, page 12

Bristol riot report

The Bristol riot last month began after allegations that a black man's trousers had been torn by a policeman taking part in a café raid, a report by the Commission for Racial Equality says. It recommends more foot-patrol policing in the St Paul's area of the city. Page 6

Hunt for siege man

Scotland Yard issued photographs and descriptions of the leader of the Iranian Embassy siege man and a woman seen with him. The man, Sami Muhammad Ali, disappeared shortly before the start of the siege. Page 5

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DAY OF ACTION

Parliament: Lord Hailsham says May 14 was Tories' best propaganda weapon for 30 years

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, yesterday described the TUC's day of action as the best propaganda weapon given to the Tory Party for 30 years.

Rebuked by Lord Elwyn-Jones, Labour's former Lord Chancellor, for his unseemly joy over the political bonus for his party, the Lord Chancellor retorted that he felt no joy at the discomfiture of his fellow citizens. But, he went on, when one was bowled a long hop, there was no reason why one should not hit it for six.

Speaking in the House of Lords, Lord Hailsham added that there was increasing resentment from rank-and-file trade unionists at the incompetence and stupidity of some of their leaders. As he knew, millions of workers were not consulted but were told what to do.

He doubted if there was much consultation between Mr Len Murray, General Secretary of the TUC, and the rank and file. It was difficult to see how there could be an effective protest against the economic policies of a government by taking it out on one's fellow citizens.

Later, during a debate on the appointment of Mr Ian MacGregor as chairman of British Steel, Lord Trenchard, Minister of State, Department of Industry, described the day of action as "this day of stupidity". Against the will of perhaps three-quarters of ordinary trade unionists, some of their leaders, encouraged by

Opposition politicians, had made it impossible for them to work.

Estimates suggested that this day of stupidity could have cost the nation hundreds of millions of pounds, the minister added. Lord Soames, Lord President of the Council, responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Civil Service, Department told the House that only a small proportion of civil servants, less than 2 per cent, had not reported for work. He thanked them for their attitude and for overcoming transport difficulties. Lord Soames pointed out that civil servants absent from work without authority would be in breach of contracts of their employment and would lose pay as a result. There were some trade disputes between the Government and its employees but that did not legally justify them in withdrawing their labour.

To Lord Underhill on the Labour benches, who said that meetings in factories and departments up and down the country had decided what free action trade unionists would take, Lord Soames replied that the day of action had met with the general feeling that it was not in the national interest.

From the Labour benches Lord Elwyn-Jones said it was now the duty of the House to avoid further exasperation, tension and confrontation which the Government had built up between itself and the trade unions.

Lord Byron, another Labour peer, added that the only mistake made by the TUC was that the day of action should have been on Derby day.

glorious Goodwood or Royal Ascot so that the trade unions could have enjoyed the day with the wealthy.

Lord Underhill added that it would be better if the Government got down to finding the real reason why millions of workers were dissatisfied with conditions today and why millions of them were taking action and losing pay. Lord Hailsham retorted that as far as he knew millions of workers were not consulted but were told what to do. To another peer, the Lord Chancellor replied that irresponsible action by any set of people led to suffering by our fellow citizens and individual redress could not be got in every case.

Lord Peart, former leader both of the Commons and of the Lords under previous Labour governments, protested at the attacks being made on trade unionists.

Mr Michael Foot, deputy leader of the Labour Party, was the only senior Opposition MP to mention the day of action in the Commons. There were Conservative shouts of "not much" as Mr Foot told the House that of course people were protesting.

The protest, he went on, was going to grow until the Government decided either to change course or to face the electorate and be thrown out. When confronted with 20 per cent inflation and unemployment heading towards the two million mark, the Government show a little more humility. Week by week, Mr Foot said, the country was going deeper into the worst recession since the war.

Parliamentary report, page 4

Marches: Holiday mood in the sun

By Frances Gibb

Bearing banners, babies and balloons, several hundred trade unionists marched through the streets of south London yesterday, converging for rallying speeches in a park beside the Imperial War Museum.

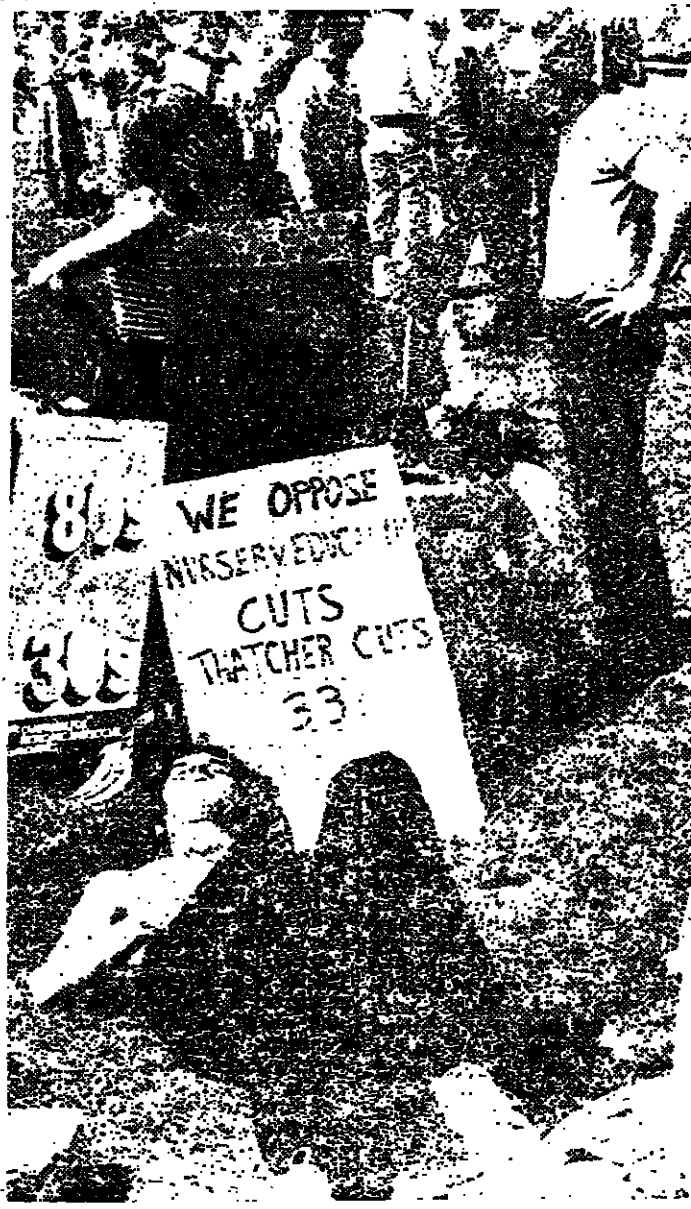
As they walked in the sunshine, some led by a pop group on a float, others to the accompaniment of drums, tambourines and a fiddle, the atmosphere was more that of a Bank Holiday than of a day of political protest.

Despite a variety of banners, from the Workers of Uruguay to Southwark Women's Aid and the Citizens' Advice Bureau, most of the marchers seemed to come from the services most hit by the cuts: teaching, health, local government and the social services.

The organizers, Lambeth and Southwark trades councils, claimed that the two marches, one from Camberwell Green and the other from Brixton Town Hall, had attracted as many as 4,000 people. Unions, despite "an unprecedented campaign against the day of action" in the press.

The police, however, who lined the marches with some 200 officers, estimated total attendance at 1,400.

As beer cans appeared, babies nappies were changed and shirts removed, Mr Jack Jones, former general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, told marchers they were facing the most "reactionary Government we have faced for a long, long time".



Demonstrators resting and making the most of the sunshine in Holland Park, London, before moving on to Westminster.

Small town: Not one for the roll of history

From John Young
Bury St Edmunds

Over the centuries a fair bit of history has washed over this ancient and beautiful Suffolk town. Towards history tends to pass it by, and yesterday cannot in all honesty be included in the roll of stirring events.

At the entrance to the Abbey Gardens, bright with carefully tended beds of spring flowers, a man and a girl were handing out leaflets. But at 2 pm fewer than 50 people were at the medieval Guildhall to hear speakers from the trade unions.

A short distance away hundreds of people thronged the twice-weekly outdoor market in brilliant sunshine. Many of them had come from surrounding villages, and the Eastern Counties bus depot reported that all services were operating normally.

In a tiny public house on a corner of the market an elderly man in a blue jersey, with a cap thrust over a mop of white hair, had some uncomplicated things to say about shopkeepers. "The next time they will see a new union for unemployed shop stewards", he proclaimed to anyone who might be listening.

As far as Bury was concerned, the might have saved his breath. The TUC's call seemed to have gone completely unheeded, and life in the town appeared normal.

Out on the industrial estates it was also business as usual. Mr Victor Weston, personnel manager of one of the largest local firms, Barber-Greene, said that three people out of a workforce of 500 had deliberately stayed away.

"We were worried to begin with", he said, "because 90 per cent of the machinery we produce is exported and we might have had transport hold-ups. But in fact we have had no problems at all."

Mr Murray Watson, personnel and management services officer of St Edmundsbury District Council, had made a detour on his way to work to see if anything unusual was happening. "The answer was, nothing at all," he said.

A spokesman for the local hospital said that, so far as he was aware, its services were unaffected. Mr Derrick Everingham, treasurer of the local chamber of commerce, said he knew of no repercussions anywhere.

Bury St Edmunds, no doubt like hundreds of other small towns, had clearly decided that it preferred a peaceful life.

The press: 'Daily Star' closure threatened

By Donald MacIntyre
Labour Reporter

Express Newspapers might threaten the permanent closure of the Star as a dispute with the Society of Graphical and Trades (Sogat) prevented publication today of the northern editions, as those of the Daily Express.

The stoppage followed a conflict on Tuesday night when the company ceased in publishing 180,000 copies of the two papers in Manchester. Sogat's participation in it of action.

About 14 million copies of national newspapers were yesterday when many printing workers stayed in solidarity with the national newspapers in London and elsewhere in Manchester.

Last night members of print unions were declining a picket line of the which had gathered round newspapers' building in Ancoats Street, Manchester.

Sogat has given official notice to the dispute in protest of the use of management at culation representatives to drive hired vans to tribute copies of yesterday's editions of the newspaper.

Last night Mr Matthews, chairman of the party, referred to a general secretary of Sogat yesterday's TUC rally in Manchester that the company be "very lucky" to print newspapers on Monday during last night.

Mr Matthews said: "new action of Sogat could lead to the closure of the Star, which is totally dependent on Manchester. So one which strongly supported day of action in Manchester draw attention to mon of unemployed workers about to add to their total."

A statement from the company, which was last expecting normal publication London today, said that it still not received official firmation from the union official dispute.

In Scotland, Glasgow-power newspapers, including the Daily Record, the Glasgow Herald and its stablemate Evening Times did not stop. The Scottish Daily Express which is printed in Manchester also did not reach newsagents. The Aberdeen Press and Journal and the Evening Express did not appear, while the Dundee Courier and Evening Telegraph were lashed.

Last night in London, yesterday's Morning Star not published in common all other national newspapers. Managements were hoping normal production of a papers today.

The one newspaper which did appear in London was Free Nation, published by right-wing Freedom Association, which said that it had out its print of 250,000 copies. It declined to disclose if it had been printed.

Cycling: MP puts case for better facilities

By Our Political Correspondent

Yesterday's "Flood of cyclists" into London had again shown that the bicycle is an excellent alternative to the "stinking public transport network". Mr Anthony Green, Conservative MP for Liverpool, Wavertree, and chairman of the Commons all-party Friends of Cycling Group, said last night.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Parliamentary Secretary at the Ministry of Transport, said yesterday that six local authorities had been promised or given financial support in providing special cycle routes and facilities.

Mr Murray: Government ideology 'leading to disaster'

By Richard Ford

The Government's ideological policies were leading Britain to disaster, with rising unemployment, increasing inflation and cuts to public services, Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary, told a rally yesterday.

The Conservatives were trying to shackle the trade union movement by legal means and were using unemployment to reduce the union's bargaining power.

But he said the Government would fail to silence the unions, who were acting responsibly in "warning the British people of the dangers they faced".

Mr Murray told an estimated 500 trade unionists at a rally in Mayesbrook Park, near Barking, east London, that the trade

unions' alternative policies were policies of compassion, compromise and realism.

He drew loud cheers when he attacked the " gutter press" for their criticisms of the protest. They could not attack the TUC's policies or rebut them so they turned to the classical methods used by sections of the press to attack personalities, he said.

The object of the day of action which, he said, was being supported by thousands of workers throughout Britain, was to protest at the way the country was being run. The unions spoke for the unemployed, schoolchildren, the sick, and for a compassionate and caring society.

They knew there were difficulties but the Government was

multiplying them. "We are offered policies of division, setting person against person, which are inadequate to meet the needs."

The Government's policies were economic, social and political nonsense. Inflation had doubled and unemployment was at one and a half million and would reach two million soon.

"What we are offered by the Tories to improve industrial relations is a different version of legal means already tried. They believe that if you want to improve industrial relations you put legal shackles on the trade unions."

That, Mr Murray said, was being done in the name of the ideology of the market place "where money is king", when the length of your purse deter-

mined your place in the hospital queue or your children's education.

"Whatever may be the attacks on the Trades Union Congress in calling this day of action we accept our responsibility to the British people. Our voice is the voice of reason, the voice of common sense and the voice of compromise. Our strategy is to use the nation's resources in putting people back to work," Mr Murray said.

"We serve our members and we respond to them and we will give a lead. We are not accountable to the leader writers of The Sun, The Daily Telegraph and the others."

Defending the unions against criticism that the day of action was politically motivated, Mr

Murray said pensions and jobs were policies but the TUC was not in part politics. What the Government was offering was party politics at their most naked.

The protest was against a year of neglect; perhaps the trade unions should not have left it so long.

"The Government's response to us, abetted by their lackeys and jackals of the press, was twofold: firstly to shut us up and secondly to use legal means to reduce bargaining power."

The rally gave Mr Murray, who was accompanied on the platform by Mr Ronald Todd, national executive officer of the Transport and General Workers' Union, and Miss Jo Richardson, Labour MP for Barking, a rousing reception.

Rallies: The media come under fire

By John Witherow

Trade union leaders yesterday attacked press coverage of the day and placed much of the blame on the media for the lukewarm response to the strike call.

"We have been vilified by the media, a media most of which is prostituting itself to a pro-employer partisanship," Mr Jack Dromey, secretary of the South East Regional Council of the Trades Union Congress, said.

He told a stormy meeting of about 1,500 people in Central

Hall, Westminster, designed to be the centrepiece of London's day of action, that the "confused and biased" press coverage was propaganda in the press.

A speech by Mr Alex Kitson, deputy general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, was continually interrupted by heckling before scuffles broke out between stewards and about a dozen people holding placards stating: "All strikes should be political".

The demonstrators, some with punk hairstyles and clothes, were ejected from the hall. Mr Kitson said government policies were to blame for the collapse of industry and called for import controls to stop the closure of factories and curtail rising unemployment.

He was supported by Mr Norman Atkinson, Labour MP for Haringey, Tottenham, who said the government had started a massive anti-trade union campaign in this country.

With Central Hall only half full, Mr Dromey admitted that many trade unionists had worked yesterday.

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Schools: Inner London is most affected

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

Most children in Britain had a normal day at school yesterday. By and large teachers turned up to teach, parents to open schools, and drivers to drive the school buses.

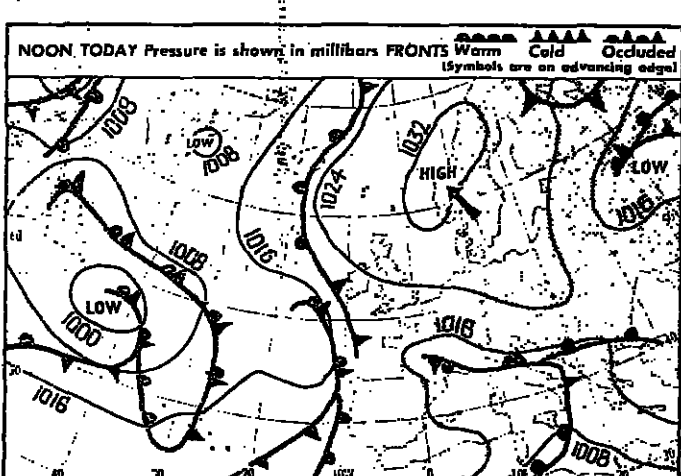
Some schools, however, were closed because of the absence of children had at least part of their schooling disrupted. Inner London, where many teachers went on strike, appeared to have suffered most with one fifth of its primary schools and nearly half of its secondary schools closed for at least part of the day.

The National Union of Teachers, which represents just over half of all teachers in England and Wales, reported that 60 of its 125 local associations had decided to stage a half-day strike. But that did not necessarily mean that all members of those associations joined in the action.

All other teachers' unions in England and Wales took no part in Scotland, where most schools had been closed on Tuesday because of a strike over pay by teachers, only a handful of schools were affected.

Teachers' union leaders

Weather forecast and recordings



Today
Sun rises: 5.9 am
Sun sets: 8.46 pm
Moon rises: 6.17 am
Moon sets: 9.51 pm

First Quarter: May 21
Lighting up: 9.16 pm to 4.37 am.
High water: London Bridge, 2.59 am, 2.39 pm, 4.40 pm, 5.40 pm.
Low water: London Bridge, 8.46 am, 13.9m, 9.01 pm, 13.9m.
Dover, 12.15 pm, 6.7m, 13.9m, 7.25 pm, 7.45 pm, 13.9m.
Liverpool, 12.15 am, 9.6m, 12.35 pm, 9.7m, 13.9m.
1ft = 0.3048m. 1in = 2.54cm.

High pressure, slow moving over Norway, will maintain a dry E to SE flow over all areas. Forecast for 6 am to midnight.

London, SE, E, England, East Anglia, Channel: Dry, sunny periods; wind E, moderate or fresh; max temp 15° to 17°C (59° to 63°F) but cooler on some coasts.

Central S, SW England: Dry, sunny; wind W, light or moderate; max temp 16°C (61°F) but cooler near coasts.

Midlands, Central N England: Dry, sunny; wind E, light or moderate; max temp 20° or 21°C (68° to 70°F).

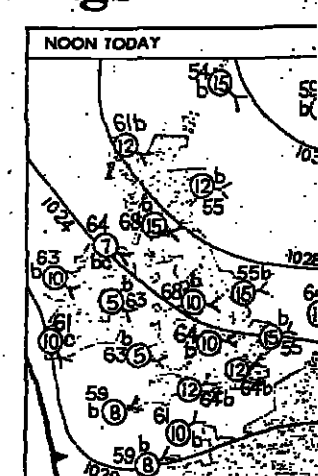
Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Northern Ireland: Dry, sunny; wind mostly SE, light or moderate; max temp 20° to 21°C (68° to 70°F) but cooler near coasts.

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh: Dry, sunny; wind E, light or moderate; max temp 18°C (64°F) to 20°C (68°F).

Jersey: Dry, sunny; wind E, light or moderate; max temp 18°C (64°F) to 20°C (68°F).

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1ft = 0.3048m. 1in = 2.54cm.

High pressure, slow moving over Norway, will maintain a dry E to SE flow over all areas. Forecast for 6 am to midnight.

London, SE, E, England, East Anglia, Channel: Dry, sunny periods; wind E, moderate or fresh; max temp 15° to 17°C (59° to 63°F) but cooler on some coasts.

Central S, SW England: Dry, sunny; wind W, light or moderate; max temp 16°C (61°F) but cooler near coasts.

Midlands, Central N England: Dry, sunny; wind E, light or moderate; max temp 20° or 21°C (68° to 70°F).

Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Northern Ireland: Dry, sunny; wind mostly SE, light or moderate; max temp 20° to 21°C (68° to 70°F) but cooler near coasts.

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh: Dry, sunny; wind E, light or moderate; max temp 18°C (64°F) to 20°C (68°F).

Jersey: Dry, sunny; wind E, light or moderate; max temp 18°C (64°F) to 20°C (68°F).

Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Northern Ireland: Dry, sunny; wind mostly SE, light or moderate; max temp 20° to 21°C (68° to 70°F) but cooler near coasts.

NE England, Borders, Edinburgh: Dry, sunny; wind E, light or moderate; max temp 18°C (64°F) to 20°C (68°F).

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The Victoria & Albert's new series of guides make simple a visit to a maze of rich exhibits that date back several millennia. However, without the financial support of Mobil, these much-needed guides would not have been possible.

The V&A—like most artistic and cultural organisations in Britain today—is hard-hit by inflation. Theatre, music, opera, ballet, art and literature all desperately need money if they're to survive.

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Business Sponsorship of the Arts exists to encourage the growth of sponsorship for the mutual benefit of business and the arts.

Companies like Amoco, Commercial Union, Midland Bank, Imperial Tobacco, Harvey's of Bristol and Mobil have all benefited from their involvement with a broad spectrum of cultural activities. So can your company, be it large or small.

Return the coupon now for details of ABSA, its membership and its services. Join us in supporting the arts of Great Britain while we still have British arts left to support.

Association for Business Sponsorship of the Arts

To: Association for Business Sponsorship of the Arts
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DAY OF ACTION

The industry: Executives delighted by high level of turnout

David Hewson

The biggest companies and financial institutions of the London reported that had barely been affected yesterday's day of action. The Engineering Employers' Federation estimated that 90 per cent of its members' employees had arrived for work, said that the effect of the day on production had been negligible.

which employs 88,000 in the United Kingdom, absentees at some of the largest firms, normal use employees had taken precautions to ensure that would arrive for work.

a turnout of employees at bigger industrial concerns, however, surprised and disappointed executives, had been themselves for disruption. The Confederation of British Industry said day had proved the common sense of the British.

Spokesman for Ford said production at most vehicle plants had been normal, that most people who had arrived had got to touch the company to say they had transport difficulties. company had yet to decide how it would pay those who arrived.

Ilford's annual meeting in London was told that attendance was near normal. Sir Orr, the company's chairman, said employees, including a junior who had crossed London on roller skates, for their efforts in reaching offices.

General Electric Corp said that most of its 15,000 employees working normally, although the manual staff at some factories had failed to report for work.

Lucas said that their business was largely unaffected, although the car firm had lost all production at its Linwood plant.

Despite fears that transport would be one of the worst affected sectors, the National Freight Corporation, which embraces British Road Services, National Carriers, Pickfords, Roadline and many other companies, said it was "working virtually normally". The company has 700 depots throughout the country and employs 36,500 people.

The City was more sparsely populated than usual, but the financial institutions worked normally. The London Chamber of Commerce estimated that between 50 and 70 per cent of staff had reported for work. City companies felt that this was largely because the London Underground was running, contrary to expectations.

The Bank of England worked normally, and at Lloyd's business was as usual, although a few assurances which would normally have been open were closed for the day. The Baltic Exchange, where only one member of staff had failed to turn up for work because of transport difficulties, said that it was completely unaffected.

Many City firms had more arrangements for their staff to stay within walking distance of work on Tuesday night, or to share cars yesterday morning. A few companies had given staff the day off, and a number of those working allowed employees to leave early in order to catch the restricted number of Underground and main line trains home.

he North: Coal pits affected

Ronald Kershaw

Yorkshire, shift returned that out of 63 pits in the region 14 were working, despite intensive efforts by Mr Arthur Hill, the Yorkshire miners' leader.

Scargill, who said 3,000 men at Sheffield were working, said the Yorkshire miners' union had been criticised for public spending and the Government's policy.

The National Coal Board in the region estimated that the day had cost about 125,000 in lost production. In the Yorkshire area, which is the western area which is the main coal-producing region in the north, 18 out of 21 pits were working normally.

In the Midlands area, which for administrative purposes is in the south, 50 out of 56 pits were working normally.

In Nottinghamshire, 10 out of 11 pits were working, and in north Derbyshire, 11 out of 11 pits were working, and in the three pits in the Yorkshire region of the federation of British Industries (CBI) said companies that had been working normally, and those that had been working normally.

process industries including chemicals, clothing and distribution were working normally. The only problem was to get the goods to the British Railways' region the east coast line was working normally to Kings Cross, though services north stopped at Scotland. Doncaster, Sheffield and Chester.

After initial difficulties local services were running normally.

Chamber of Commerce said that generally is working as usual, earlier in the day.

Mersey Docks and Harbour Board reported 21 vessels at the Port of Liverpool lying because dockers had not turned up. Public transport services in Manchester and the Mersey were restricted.

arrow: No marches—they needed the day's pay

Martin Huckerby

Men of Jarrow were not the march yesterday. The 1, whose name became a word for protest about unemployment and the effects of industrial decline, seemed today to slumber in the undisturbed by industrial.

Most of the factories were working as normal, and there were no marches or rallies in town, only in neighbouring towns. There was a protest meeting, attended by a hundred trade unionists.

Jarrow, which is suffering an unemployment rate of 13 per cent, or one person out of seven, there was not of peace, although not that threatened any support the Government.

The one remaining threat, the mercantile Dry Dock, of the workers had with their labour, and the stood quiet.

Another local employer, NEI-Reynolds engineering, it just over the border in Burnley, was also hit, but where the workers did not go. The days don't want a day's pay, an engineering shop steward said, they can't afford it.

Others stayed at work for fear that the already shaky prospects of their firms would be even further endangered by a strike.

Nevertheless, the enthusiasm for work was hardly a demonstration of backing for the Government.

A sort of fatalism pervades the atmosphere of Jarrow; so many years have been spent watching and suffering from the decay of the traditional industries, that optimism is difficult to generate.

To look at Jarrow is not the depressed and distressing town of yesterday. With a modern shopping centre, girded by new council estates, it offers a reasonably prosperous air.

Jarrow comes under South has been striving to reverse the industrial collapse although it finds itself increasingly handicapped by the cuts in local government spending and industrial incentives.

It has built 66 advance factories in its area and 50 are occupied, but each employs only relatively few people. Mr Frank Thompson, the council's chief executive, said it took a long time to create new industries. "It will be many years before these acorns are sprouting."

Wales: The miners avert a non-event

From Tim Jones Cardiff

Only the miners saved the day of action in Wales from being almost a non-event yesterday as workers in the private and public sector reported for work normally. The Wales CBI said 30,000 of the 40,000 it estimated had stayed away from work were members of the National Union of Mineworkers.

The 35 pits in South Wales were shut at a cost of 30,000 to the industry, but in North Wales Bersham colliery, the only one in the principality to have a secret ballot, operated normally. Most of the 680 miners at the Point of Ayr colliery near by also reported for work.

Only three of the coal board's open-cast mines closed and the workforce at the other 13, mainly members of the Transport and General Workers' Union, decided to carry on normally.

The Engineering Employers' Federation in South Wales said only 19 of its 153 affiliated companies experienced difficulties. It estimated that most of the 3,393 employees from those companies that took action belonged to one company, Hoover's at Merthyr Tydfil.

Production at the Llanwern and Port Talbot steelworks was almost normal and a union source estimated that only 4,500 of a 40,000 workforce had stayed away. Union action, however, did close the British Steel's tinplate operation at Ebbw Vale.

Most bus services were operating normally although drivers in Mid-Glamorgan obeyed their union leaders.

There were no later-City trains running into Wales.

Four of the five South Wales docks were handling goods as though the call for action had never been made but transport union members halted traffic at Newport dock.

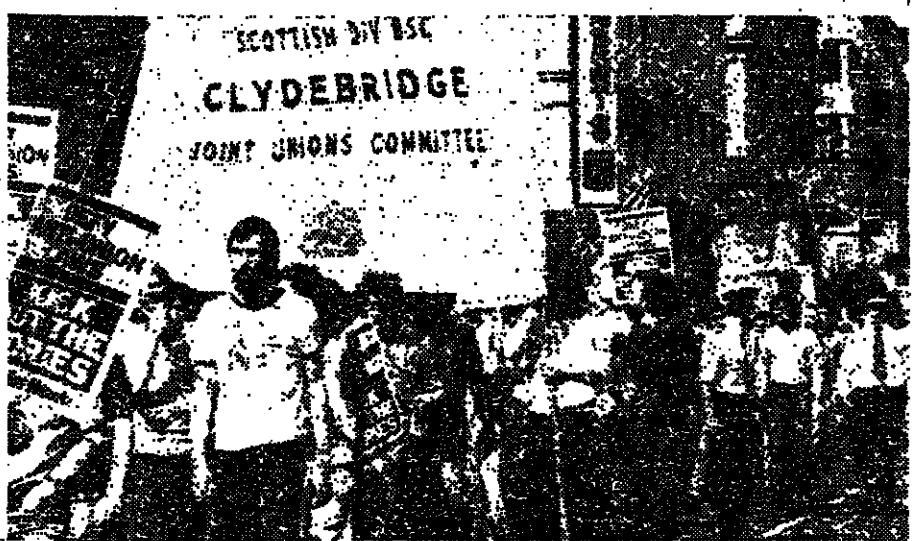
One of the few successes for the TUC side was a well-attended rally at Swansea where more than 2,000 demonstrators took part.

A senior Wales TUC official admitted privately that the day of action had been a "disaster" in north-east Wales.

Mr Ian Keisall, director of the Wales CBI, said: "The so-called day of action has flopped in Wales and the trade union leaders involved have egg on their faces."



On the march: While print workers (left) supported the day of action in Faringdon Street London, yesterday, trade unionists rallied in Birmingham (top) and Glasgow.



BL: Production stopped at only one factory

By Clifford Webb

Midlands Industrial Correspondent

British Leyland workers ignored the call in such numbers that delighted factory managers abandoned plans to count those who reported. Instead they counted those staying away and found that fewer than 4,000 of the group's 140,000 United Kingdom labour force were absent.

Production was halted at only one plant. Most of the 2,000 manual workers stayed away from Albion Glasgow, which produces truck components for Leyland Vehicles.

Absenteeism was reported to be "higher than normal" at Cowley car assembly, Castle Bromwich body plant, SU Carburetors, Birmingham, Speke body plant, Liverpool, and the bus factory at Workington.

Unofficial estimates suggest that 80 per cent of employees turned up at those four plants, enabling production to continue with varying difficulties. Many workers had made arrangements to pool their cars.

At Longbridge, the group's biggest car plant, the militant shop stewards committee's call for a mass meeting was a dismal failure. Only 100 turned up for a mass meeting on an adjoining park. Shop stewards had forecast 10,000.

BL said last night: "We are delighted with the superb turnout today. We have lost very little production thanks to the responsible attitude shown by our employees."

Ulster: Buses and trains run but big firms suffer

From Christopher Thomas Belfast

The 200,000 members of TUC-affiliated unions in Northern Ireland rejected the strike call. Even the buses and trains were unaffected, which surprised the employers.

Northern Ireland Railways said: "Everybody is in. Services are operating normally."

Ulsterbus, the state bus company, said there was a full turnout and all services were normal. Belfast airport said no one was on strike.

However, the two biggest employers in the province were affected. Harland and Wolff, the shipbuilders, said that between 40 and 50 per cent of its 7,000 workers had stayed away and Short Brothers, the aircraft manufacturers, said that 25 per cent of its 6,700 employees were absent.

The Transport and General Workers' Union in Belfast said it was not able to say how many of its 70,000 members in Northern Ireland were on strike but it was not disappointed by the response. "We are pleased," a senior official said. "Several engineering firms have been badly hit."

But the Engineering Employers' (Northern Ireland) Association said it had received no reports of trouble from its 150 member companies.

Colonel James S'aetor, director of the CBI in Northern Ireland, said he was delighted at the response of the workforce. "It is a tribute to the common sense of the Ulster people."

Scotland: Factory and shipyard closures

From Ronald Faux Edinburgh

The shipbuilding, coal mining, car and steel industries were worst affected yesterday in Scotland.

The Scott Lithgow and Govan shipyards on the Clyde were both brought to a halt. The Talbot car plant at Linwood was closed and there was no production at the Ravenscraig works of the British Steel Corporation.

Rolls-Royce aero engineering factories at Hillington and East Kilbride were halted and only four of Scotland's 19 coal mines were able to work.

Even so, Mr John Davidson, director of the Scottish CBI, described the day of action as "the flop of the year". There were some spectacular closures but the Scottish Engineering Employers' Federation reported that 80 per cent of the workforce had turned out and more would have done so if they had been able to get to work.

Large companies and concerns operating normally included Weirs, Babcock Power, Varrow's, Hoover, the South of Scotland Electricity Board, British Steel (with the exception of Ravenscraig) and a host of other electronics and engineering companies.

BP's refinery at Grangemouth worked normally as did chemical and chemical engineering centres and British Leyland at Bathgate.

The Albion works of BL were idle and Michelin Tyres in Edinburgh was badly affected. Most banks, shops, offices and the postal service worked normally.

In Edinburgh more than 2,000 trade unionists paraded along Princes Street to the Usher Hall for a demonstration rally. The largest Scottish rally was in Glasgow where more than 14,000 turned out and heard speeches from trade union officials.

Leith dockers failed to report for work but Grangemouth operated normally.

At Aberdeen docks only about half the work force arrived and the ferry from Aberdeen to Shetland did not leave.

Although main airports operated normally other transport services were badly disrupted. Many trains were cancelled and the main ferry services to the Western Isles did not sail. British Rail reckoned that 80 per cent of Scottish services had been halted.

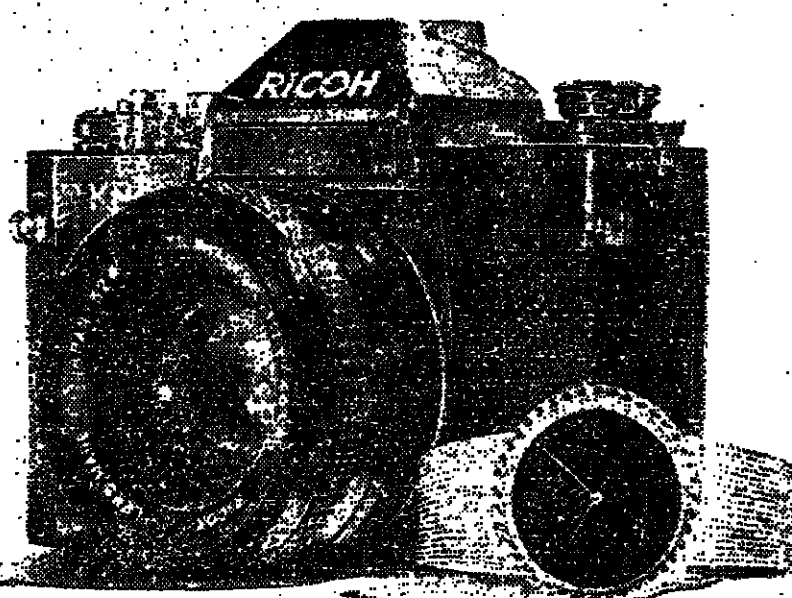
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PARLIAMENT, May 13 and 14, 1980

EEC ministers will consider use of sanctions on Iran

House of Commons
The Iran (Temporary Powers) Bill had its second reading during Monday night by 23 votes to 83—Government majority. 145 completed its passage through the Commons this morning after an all-night sitting on its committee and remaining stages. There was a division on the third reading of the Bill and Tuesday's sitting ended at 7.33 am.

There was over five hours of debate on the first group of Committee stage amendments. These were headed by an amendment moved by Mr. Tom Dwyer (West Lothian, Lab) to exempt contracts of service from the Bill. It was rejected by 181 votes to 53—Government majority.

A Labour backbench amendment was rejected by 120 votes to 130—Government majority. 144.

Mr. Douglas Hurd, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (Tower Hamlets, Stepney and Poplar, Lab) asked—Will the Foreign Secretary while at the meeting of the Nine Foreign Ministers taking place in Naples this weekend note the considerable reservations there are about the sanctions Bill and even more strongly about the timing of its proposed implementation?

What advice and line is the British Government taking in the light of the fact that the United Kingdom is taking up at Naples, particularly after hearing the new United States Secretary of State, Mr. Alexander Haig, who is calling for immediate and full implementation of sanctions?

Mr. Hurd (Mid Oxon, C)—If the discussions proceed satisfactorily the Foreign Secretary will go to Naples equipped with the powers which he has at his disposal. He will have achieved to impose economic sanctions and to what extent it will be helpful to use the powers which we possess, by then, they will all have achieved to impose economic sanctions.

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New BSC chairman backs existing plans and agreements

House of Lords
The appointment of Mr. Ian MacGregor as chairman of the British Steel Corporation had not only been made without consultation with the House of Lords, but also seemed possible that it had been made without prior consultation within the Cabinet, Lord Bruce of Donington (Leamington, Con) said in an opening debate on the appointment.

He said that Mr. MacGregor had been appointed from July 1 for three years on a salary of £48,500 and that as part of the deal, £225,000 per annum was to be paid to Lazard Freres of New York in return for a loan of £100 million to the Corporation. He said that the deal was a "limited partnership" and that the Corporation was to be a "joint venture" between the Government and Lazard Freres.

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MIND in hands of 'profession agitators'

House of Commons
Mr. Christopher Price (Leamington, Lab), speaking in the House of Commons, said that the MIND (Mental Infirmity and Neurological Disorders) was in the hands of "profession agitators".

He said that the MIND was a "professional association" and that it was "not a genuine association". He said that the MIND was "not a genuine association" and that it was "not a genuine association".

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More BBC programmes broadcast to Russia

BBC External Service broadcasts to both Russia and to Afghanistan have been increased to a small extent and the scope for further increases was being considered, Mr. Nicholas Ridley, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, said.

Mr. Ridley (Cirencester and Tewkesbury, C)—No Sir. The BBC External Service broadcasts either in English, which is the Government's policy to promote an international language, or in the native languages of selected countries or regions.

Security of tenure for Eurocrats

There might well be too many civil servants in Brussels, compared to the number in Scotland for instance, their number was not set by Sir Ian Gilmour, Lord Privy Seal, said.

Mr. Douglas Jay (Wandsworth, Battersea North, Lab) asked the Minister to publish the memorandum by Sir Roy Denman on disciplinary procedures within the EEC. Sir Ian Gilmour (Chesham and Amersham, C)—No, the document is not published.

Day of action seen as propaganda weapon for Tory Party

The Trade Union movement had given the Tory Party the best propaganda weapon it had for 30 years, Lord Hailsham of St. Marylebone (Leamington, Con) said during questions on the TUC day of action.

Lord Ewing (C) asked whether the protest strikes taking place today were the work of the Tory Party. Lord Hailsham (St. Marylebone, Con)—I do not know what degree of consultation took place between Mr. Murray and the Tory Party. I do not know what degree of consultation took place between Mr. Murray and the Tory Party.

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Safety features of cruise missiles

There were no adverse deductions to be drawn from the cruise missile, Mr. Geoffrey Fittle, Under-Secretary of Defence for the Royal Air Force, said during questions.

Mr. Fittle (Leamington, Lab) asked what controls against accidental launch would be fitted to the cruise missile system to be deployed in the United Kingdom.

Government defeat on insurance of hire cars

House of Lords
There should be no reason why insurance companies should not be required to include full cover for people engaged in the transport of passengers under the Transport Bill, Lord Lucas of Chilworth (C) said during the committee stage of the Bill on Tuesday.

He moved an amendment to this effect to Clause 2 (Definition of "public service vehicle") which was carried by 104 votes to 84—majority against the Government, 20.

The amendment had the effect of extending insurance protection to the driver of a car used to carry passengers for fares which covered the running costs of the passenger and third party liability.

House and hustings the places to disagree

House of Commons
The day after came when a government was pushed off course by action in the streets and factories, it would be a black day indeed, Mr. David Steel, Leader of the Liberal Party, said above the House of Commons during Prime Minister's questions on Tuesday.

Mr. Steel (Leamington, Lab) said that the Government was "not a genuine association" and that it was "not a genuine association". He said that the Government was "not a genuine association" and that it was "not a genuine association".

Government to cut 75,000 Civil Service posts in search for efficiency

It is the Government's intention to reduce the size of the Civil Service by 75,000 posts, Mr. Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said in a statement. It was intended that the number of civil servants should be reduced from 705,000 to 630,000.

Mr. Thatcher said: "The Government has been reviewing the efficiency of the Civil Service in the light of experience gained in our first year in office. The work of the Civil Service divides broadly into two main areas: the formulation of policy and the direct support for ministers in the execution of that policy. The great majority of civil servants are engaged in the latter, which is the more important and more demanding task. It is therefore necessary to ensure that the Civil Service is as efficient as possible in this task. This will require a reduction in the number of civil servants to 630,000 by the end of the next four years. This will be achieved by a combination of measures, including the abolition of certain posts, the reduction of others, and the improvement of the efficiency of the remaining staff. This will be a difficult task, but it is one which we must undertake if we are to ensure the long-term success of our government."

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MINDHOME NEWS

Hands of Cosh was
'profess
agitator'
PC tells Peach
quest

Nicholas Timmins
A special patrol group officer at the Blair Peach inquest yesterday that he drove his van empty along Orchard Avenue, after unloading his van at the junction with Beecroft Avenue in Southall, where Mr Peach died from a severe head injury during the demonstration against the National Front in April last year.

Earlier witnesses, including Inspector Douglas Hopkins and Police Constable Grenville Bintliff, told the inquest that they, another constable and a prisoner, possibly two prisoners, got to the van before it drove to the junction.

Inspector Alan Murray had said that Mr Hopkins, another constable and a prisoner, arrested the van then.

Yesterday however, Police Constable Raymond White, told the inquest that he was sure that he believed it was PC White who was on my rrier.

He did not remember any prisoners. He had stayed on a corner for only about 30 seconds, he said. Mr Hopkins, his evidence, said he had seen PC White as they were away from the junction. PC White also said that as he turned into Beecroft Avenue he slowed, but he had no recollection of the slam of the door.

On Tuesday the inquest heard that PC White got out of the van at that corner before it hit down Beecroft Avenue. PC White, who is the only G officer from his unit to have been suspended after the inquest in Southall, accounted for some of the weapons found in the van during a police search. He said a small metal sh was given to him as a present by an American police officer during a holiday in a United States. A whip he had bought from an Indian shop the same holiday.

During the search the cosh was found in the pocket of his jacket. PC White said that as complaints investigation team officers were approaching, "in a moment of panic I idly, silly, put it in my jacket pocket. Wah after- thought there was no point a cosh was there for them see anyway."

On Tuesday the inquest heard that the blow that fatally injured Mr Peach could have been delivered by a police truncheon. Rufus Crompton, head of the renal Pathology Department at St. George's Hospital, told the jury that of all the items he had seen, including those from police lockers, the one likely to have caused the injury was a police radio.

He told the jury, however, that Mr Peach's skull was abnormally thin.

Police Constable Graham Woodcock, who was not at the inquest, produced a photograph showing PC Woodcock holding the cosh and said: "I saw PC White holding the cosh. Evidence given to the court by the photographer read out, stating that he saw PC Woodcock hitting Mr Peach, although PC Woodcock denied yesterday he hit him in defence."

Army and terrorists in long
gun battle on border

Mr Christopher Thomas
The small Northern Ireland border town of Middletown, Co. Wick, was the scene of a gun battle between terrorists and soldiers early yesterday.

The Army said they fired as many as 400 rounds at a gang of gunmen, shooting from a large building which the police described as being "exactly on the border".

The battle began soon after a driver crossing the Ardara Bridge from the Irish Republic was stopped by two soldiers who fired a live-gal-drum in his car boot.

Immigrants may be
used to
aid immigrants

Our Political Editor
The Government is expected to increase the funds given to aid authorities to help them aid their immigrant population.

It is likely to be accomplished by easing the criteria for aid given under section 11 of the Local Government Act 1966, which at present restricts assistance to immigrants from Commonwealth countries.

A ministerial review of section 11 had reached an advanced stage. Mr Timothy Leary, Home Office Minister, said with responsibility for community relations, told the annual meeting of the British African Association in the use of Commons on Tuesday. He suggested that there "may some scope ... for changing present current administrative criteria which may restrict scope of the grant unnecessarily". Assistance is needed "only for Commonwealth immigrants."

At the end of the Easter Recess, Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, began discussions with his junior ministers to see if the positive side of the Government's policies on race can be accentuated.

Civil Service to be cut
by further 75,000,
Commons is told

By George Clark
Political Correspondent
Cuts proposed by the Government will reduce the number of civil servants from 732,000, the total when the Conservatives came to power, to 657,000 by 1984, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, announced in the Commons on Tuesday.

She said that as a result of steps already taken the number had fallen to 705,000.

It is estimated, on current wage and price levels, that the Civil Service wage bill will have been reduced by between £600m and £650m a year when the operation has been completed.

Mrs Thatcher, who was accused by Mr Ian Wigglesworth, the Opposition front-bench spokesman on the Civil Service, of expressing a "pious hope" and using "hollow phrases" to disguise a programme for action, and that she had the aspect of the Civil Service unions in working for a more efficient organization, providing "good value for money".

She rejected the suggestion that the size of government bureaucracy caused insecurity and anxiety among staff. But the Government was allowing enough time for the best possible plans to be produced, encouraging civil servants themselves to take part.

The total of 705,000 civil servants is made up of 548,000 in the civil service proper, 157,000 industrial staff. Mrs Thatcher said that the reductions in numbers come from both sections.

Union move
to leave
TUC fails

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Staff
The annual conference of the 99,000-member Institution of Professional Civil Servants has overwhelmingly defeated a resolution calling for the union's disaffiliation from the TUC.

Although resolutions seeking a break with the TUC, to which the union affiliated after a protracted internal debate in 1976, have been submitted before, it was the first time such a resolution has been debated.

The conference yesterday also backed an emergency resolution condemning the Government's decision to cut about 75,000 civil service jobs and voted to oppose in particular any compulsory redundancies that might occur.

Mr William McCall, general secretary, said the proposed cuts were motivated by "party political dogma".

David Felton reports from Southport: Britain's largest civil service union, which this week swung sharply to the right, yesterday voted by 3-2 not to affiliate to the Labour Party. There were fears at the annual conference of resignations from the 240,000-member Civil and Public Services Association if affiliation was approved.

The union was affiliated to Labour in the 1920s but disaffiliated by law after the 1926 general strike. The law was repealed in 1947.

Mr Kenneth Thomas, general secretary, said the union need have "no fear of the political purity of the association being isolated".

Town's aid for
youth's treatment
to go to research

A youth whose home town collected almost £4,000 so that he could be treated with the drug Interferon died on Tuesday night.

Andrew McEwan, aged 17, of Holyhead, Gwynedd, had been seriously ill in hospital since March 13 with a tumour, and had asked for treatment with Interferon. Holyhead people raised the money in a fortnight.

He died in hospital near Holyhead Town Hall, where the latest fund-raising event, a coffee evening, was ending.

Fund organizers will give the money to help with research into Interferon.

Kagan appeal for
bail rejected

Paris, May 14.—The Paris Court of Appeal rejected the request for bail submitted by Lord Kagan's lawyers today.

The hearing of extradition proceedings against him is to take place on June 11 in Paris.

He is resisting extradition to Britain on charges of misappropriating 239 cases of indigo dye to the detriment of Kagan Textiles and of falsifying accounts.

Yard issues
description
of embassy
siege leader

By Stewart Tendler
Crime Reporter
Scotland Yard yesterday issued descriptions and pictures of the leader of the Iranian siege gunman and a woman seen with him. Three new addresses for the gunmen in London were also disclosed.

Commander Peter Duffy, head of the anti-terrorist squad, said that the police think the gunmen and their leader began to arrive in Britain in February to prepare for the attack.

Last weekend Scotland Yard said that Sami Muhammad Ali was believed to have been the organizer of the raid and he disappeared shortly before the start of the siege from a flat in Latham Gardens, west London.

The flat was the last known address for the gunmen before the siege in which five of them died. Police yesterday also gave addresses for three other flats, at 20 Nevera Place, 24 Queen's Gate, and Queen's Gate Towers, Queen's Gate, all west London. The flat at 24 Queen's Gate is only two doors away from the Iraqi Embassy.

Mr Duffy said the gunmen lived "in varying numbers and permutations" at the flats. He did not know whether Mr Ali had returned to Iraq as some reports suggested but he is known to have come to Britain at least once before and within the last year.

Mr Ali is described as aged about 35, between 5ft 5in and 5ft 6in tall, plumply built with a scar on his right cheek. He has been known to wear a beard. The woman is aged about 30, height about 5ft 8in and with a good figure. It is not clear whether she had any part in the preparations for the siege.



The Scotland Yard pictures of Sami Muhammad Ali and the unnamed woman seen with him.

Teachers' pay body is
likely to admit error

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent
The Clegg Commission on Pay Comparability is about to announce that it made a mistake in its study of teachers' pay, and that it should have recommended average pay increase for more than 600,000 teachers and lecturers in Britain of about 15 per cent rather than 18 per cent.

The 18 per cent award recommended by the commission in its report on teachers' pay, published last month, has already been approved for the 470,000 teachers in England and Wales. Negotiations are continuing for teachers in Scotland and for all college lecturers.

The admission of the commission's mistake could dramatically affect the 1980 pay claim for teachers in England and Wales, which has gone to arbitration after the teachers rejected a 13 per cent pay rise in addition to their Clegg award.

Professor Hugh Clegg, chairman of the commission, was away on holiday when The Sunday Telegraph published a report on May 4 alleging that in comparing the salaries of a graduate going into industry with a graduate going into teaching, the commission had failed to take into account all the salary increments due to a newly-qualified teacher with a good honours degree.

The commission believed that the two salary levels should be roughly equal. According to its first calculations, the discrepancy was about 17 per cent and that therefore recommended that award for the newly-qualified graduate teachers. But according to its new calculations, the discrepancy is nearer 14 per cent.

The awards recommended for all the other teachers and college lecturers, which ranged from 17 to 25 per cent, were based on that discrepancy: they would therefore also be wrong.

The teachers' unions believe that the commission has made two errors: for it has also failed to take into account that the training for a qualified teacher with an honours degree took four years while a graduate normally would have studied for only three years.

MP stole from two shops

James Dunn, aged 53, Labour MP for Liverpool, Kirkdale, was yesterday found guilty on two shoplifting charges by an Inner London Crown Court jury.

Judge Suzanne Norwood told him: "You were acting entirely out of character which was attributable to your appalling state of health. I think your friends were right when they aid you should not have gone back to work as quickly as you did."

Mr Dunn, former Under Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, was conditionally discharged for a year and ordered to pay £100 towards costs.

He had denied stealing a 60p map from one shop and two ties, two armbands and a sweat top from another.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO LOOK FAR TO SEE HOW TO SAVE ON FUEL BILLS.

With the price of fuel going up, everyone is looking for ways to make the best possible use of it.

Yet many of us are still wasting precious heat on the one room in the house we use least. The loft.

And although you may have some insulation up there already, you should check it. Installations made a few years ago are often only an inch thick. Whereas the recommended thickness today is from three to five inches, depending on the material used.

With most materials, it should be a job you can do yourself. But even if you employ a specialist installer, effective loft insulation is an investment which will pay dividends year after year.

To find out more about it, along with other methods of saving heat and details of a grant towards loft and tank insulation, send for our free booklet 'Make the most of your heating'.

Taking action now, before winter returns, will be one way to stop the cost of heating going through your roof.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

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HOME NEWS

Bristol riot began after police tore man's trousers, report alleges

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Allegations that a police officer tore a young black man's trousers began the riot in Bristol on April 2, according to a report by the Commission for Racial Equality.

Mr Paul Stephenson, the commission's senior regional field officer for the South, says the man, aged 22, insisted on immediate cash compensation from the police. The incident happened during a police raid on the Black and White Cafe.

Evidence about it was given by a black community worker who hurried to the cafe on hearing about the raid. A police officer threatened to arrest the man.

Within a short time of the cafe proprietor, Mr Berram Wilks, being taken away in a police car, missiles were hurled at the cafe windows and doors, mainly by black youths on the other side of the road.

While the police cleared the area serious arson and looting took place. Shops owned by Asians and shops which were known to employ West Indians were protected by local residents and were saved from looting, the report says.

When the police returned at 11.30 pm with riot shields and in strength most of the streets were calm and deserted. Indeed, according to Peter Courtier, the assistant community relations officer in Bristol, the situation at the time

needed only a dozen police officers. The report says that throughout the rioting there was no violence between black and white members of St Paul's community; it was purely directed against police and property.

Referring to racial prejudice and discrimination in the city, the report speaks of poverty, poor environment and little or no work opportunities for black youths.

The report quotes an estimate by Mr Michael Carney, chairman of an employment working party of Bristol's council for racial equality, that about 9 per cent of Bristol's 6,000 ethnic minority work force is unemployed.

The council was particularly disappointed about the rejection of some of the applications for urban aid that would have benefited ethnic minorities.

The report recommends: "The commission should urge on the chief constable the need to strengthen foot-patrol policing in St Paul's, give training in community relations within the force far higher priority than hitherto, and work with the CRE to provide suitable training, material and programmes for senior officers in understanding the cultural, social and economic position of ethnic minorities, particularly black youth, in order that they can devise their own in-service training for all police officers."

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Man in fall from 29th floor lands on ledge

By John Roper

A fireman yesterday talked a man to safety from the twenty-ninth floor of the Hilton hotel, London, two hours after he had fallen from the top floor, a storey above, and landed on a window sill.

Last night the man, from Finchley, north London, was in St George's Hospital under psychiatric care.

Police were called when the man, aged 33, was seen on the top floor. For an hour they tried to persuade him to come inside. Officers attempted to haul him to safety but he fell and his shirt was ripped off.

He landed on the next floor and when Station Officer Christopher Bellini arrived he was standing on a window frame and holding on to the balcony with his fingers.

Mr Bellini said: "It was very windy and he was obviously getting very cold without his shirt. We were frightened that he was tiring and would fall".

A hoist ladder was fixed and Mr Bellini climbed down but the man backed away and appeared in danger of falling off the window sill.

"I climbed down again, and again he backed away", Mr Bellini said. "But this time when I began to climb back up the ladder he followed me."

The man was not staying at the hotel nor was he a member of the staff.

The meeting between the two church leaders, in Accra, Ghana, was the first without careful preparation and formality. Archbishop Runcie pointed out, and "more than fulfilled the expectation which I had that there were advantages in our meeting on African soil". He said he took a personal delight in meeting "such a remarkable and large-hearted Christian leader".

His statement added: "It is clear that we intend to continue



Promenaders enjoying a day of inaction in Brighton yesterday as the sunny spell continued.

Archbishop praises papal view of other churches

By Our Religious Affairs Correspondent

Pope John Paul II's attitude to relations with other churches was refreshingly positive, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Rev Robert Runcie, said on his return from Africa where he and the Pope had a 45-minute private conversation. He indicated that several matters had been discussed about which he was not free to speak publicly.

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His statement added: "It is clear that we intend to continue

the theological dialogue, but in the context of a common witness and increased pastoral co-operation."

There was speculation before Archbishop Runcie's visit to Africa that one of the subjects that might be raised in his talk with the Pope was the possibility of a papal visit to Britain. The Pope expressed his hope of such a visit in a personal message to the Roman Catholic National Pastoral Congress in Liverpool.

Asked to comment on its likelihood, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Liverpool, the Most Rev Derek Worlock, specifically drew attention to the meeting between the two church leaders which was then about to take place in Africa, and the Queen's visit to the Vatican planned for next autumn.

Nothing has happened since to discredit this continuing speculation.

Mary Bell is released from prison and given a job

From Our Correspondent

Mary Bell, who killed two children 12 years ago, was released from prison yesterday, two days before she was officially due to have been released. She was driven from Ashkham Grange open prison, near York, soon after dawn.

The Home Office would not give details of her whereabouts. Miss Bell had been ordered to remain in the prison indefinitely after being convicted of the manslaughter of two boys in the Scotswood area of Newcastle.

Next week she will be 23, and after a short holiday she will

start work under the guidance of the probation service.

The prison authorities said she wanted to be left alone to live a normal life. As a person released on licence, she could at any time be recalled to prison by the Home Secretary. The appeal only if she commits other offences, or seriously misbehaves herself.

A year ago Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, was behind a programme designed to help her to re-enter society. That included taking government training course in office work at Leeds, and working in the kitchens of a cafe near York Minster.

Nuclear energy plan 'dishonest'

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

The plan for an expansion of the nuclear energy programme is based on dishonest arguments, Mr Thomas Burke, a director of Friends of the Earth and a member of the European Environmental Bureau, declared in London last night.

He was the opening speaker for a series, "Towards a Nuclear Future", at the Institute of Contemporary Arts.

Mr Burke said critics of nuclear power were often accused of seeking to change society, as if we already lived in the best of all possible worlds. But it seemed not to occur to the nuclear evangelists that their activities might result in profound and unwelcome changes in society.

He said that "the advocates of a non-nuclear future consistently draw attention to the positive transforming effects of the policies they propose, while the supporters of nuclear energy are equally consistently silent on the social effects of their policies. Yet the choice of a nuclear-electric future carries an implicit choice of a particular type of society."

"Achieving this would involve ordering not less than four nuclear power stations a year, costing in excess of 25,000m a year from 1984 until well into the next century," he said.

"It is quite clear that the so-called minimum ordering programme is not, as many thought, the smallest expansion of nuclear power, but it is slowest compatible with objectives set out in that programme. Nuclear reactors are expensive and difficult to build, requiring long lead times, large capital commitments, and little economic sense to build either small reactors or a few large reactors. Both are a type of pressure cooker, or which, in the future, nuclear programmes likely to be based on the generation of fast breeder items whose commercial viability cannot be sustained by the ordering of nuclear reactors."

He said energy shortage, understandably seen by it as one of the greatest facing society, but he discarded claims that nuclear power should be entitled to be the best defender against it.

It is now beyond argument, that, should we choose to use them, there are non-nuclear routes to guaranteeing energy security, routes that more benign environment and more compatible with existing values and customs."

Power inspectors' recruiting drive fails

By Peter Hennessy

A twelve-month advertising campaign by the Government's Health and Safety Executive has failed to recruit any scientists to make good a 20 per cent deficiency in the number of inspectors needed to ensure the safe operation of Britain's 16 civil nuclear power stations, either running or under construction.

The annual conference in Eastbourne of the Institution of Professional Civil Servants, which represents nuclear inspectors, was told this week of the dangers that might involve a risk to public safety if the numbers are not made up.

From being 5 per cent down on its full complement of staff in 1977, the nuclear inspectorate now employs 82 inspectors, 22 short of the 104 needed.

An inspector explained: "At present we can just cope. If there is any more loss of staff we will run into difficulties. We cannot afford to have a nuclear accident, not just for the sake of this country, but the world."

Under the Health and Safety Act, 1974, any one of the nuclear inspectors can stop a nuclear power station by revoking its operating licence.

In the past, one inspector been allocated to each nuclear site. Because of shortage, there is already a case of a single inspector having to cover two stations, at Windscale and Calder Hall in Cumbria.

The root of the problem, inspectors believe, lies in government's plan to disperse nuclear inspection to Merseyside in 1985 and the gap between £3,000 and the gap between the £11,021 salary received by a principal nuclear inspector and scientists in comparable positions with the electricity industry.

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Secretary '15% to blame for her dismissal'

From Our Correspondent

The social and welfare secretary of a language school for foreign students who lost her job after colleagues complained about her conduct, yesterday won her claim that she had been unfairly dismissed.

An industrial tribunal decided, however, that Miss Janet Lawler, aged 27, of The Pathway, Maudslayi, Bedfordshire, was 15 per cent to blame for her dismissal from the Bedford English Studies Centre.

In a written judgment, Mr William Carruthers, the tribunal chairman, said that if the parties could not agree compensation the case would have to be brought back to the tribunal for a decision.

Mr Carruthers said office staff should not be too prudish about colleagues' behaviour.

Some matters were those some people might not mind at all, showing men's operation, for instance, or wearing a striped or showing underwear.

We cannot see a great deal wrong with that, unless it obviously causes offence, Mr Carruthers said.

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In brief

Minister defends student fees

The Government's objection requiring overseas students pay full-cost fees was not cut the number coming to Britain but to reduce expenditure, Mr Mark Carver, Secretary of State for Education said yesterday.

Mr Carver, addressing a meeting of Conservatives in City, said institutions were to admit as many students they chose.

ITN peace talks make no progress

Talks between striking vision technicians and Independent Television News executives broke up last night, no indication of an end to dispute over new electronic news gathering techniques has kept ITN off screen since Friday.

Aldermanic victory

Mr Francis McWilliam, barrister, was admitted to Court of Aldermen of the City of London on Tuesday. He had been elected to the Aldermanic ward at the attempt, defeating Mr Do Silk, a solicitor. Mr Silk, twice defeated Mr McWilliam, was rejected by the court.

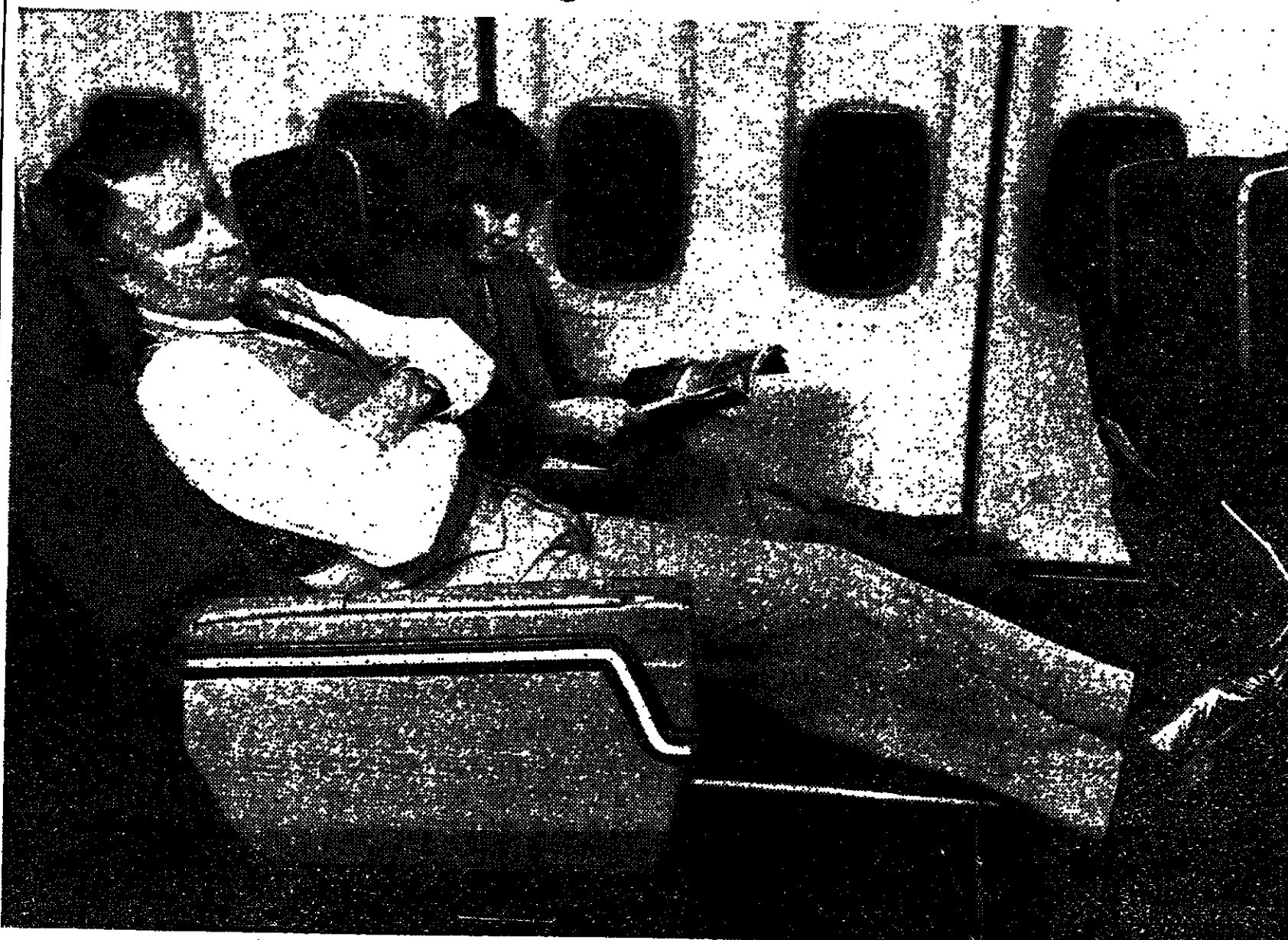
NUJ resignations

Seven employees of *Newsnight* have left National Union of Journalists. The resignations stem from recent printing dispute in which most journalists on the paper ignored a union call to cooperate in production.

Boy on murder charge

A boy aged 15 appears Glasgow Sheriff Court, yesterday, accused of murdering an elderly man in a small homeless alcoholics after a fire on Monday.

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WEST EUROPE

Left Bank protest leads to violence

From Ian Murray
Paris, May 14

Several thousand young people joined an often violent protest march in the Left Bank of Paris this afternoon, to mark the death on the previous day of a demonstrator, aged 30, who was killed when he jumped through a roof at the Paris VII University of Jussieu.

The demonstration march today lasted for about four hours and at times there were running battles between riot police and groups of young marchers, many of whom had come equipped for a fight. They wore crash helmets and wrapped scarves round their faces as protection against tear gas. Some carried lead pipe clubs.

The death of the demonstrator yesterday has given a martyr to the cause which has been disrupting normal life on a number of campuses across France in recent weeks. Several universities, including Jussieu, have been closed by strikes in protest at new Government measures to strictly control the entry of foreign students.

These strikes have been coupled with occupations of the university buildings in a number of cases and there have been violent clashes between students and police. At Jussieu there have been



An armed plainclothes policeman confronts young demonstrators during the violent protest march in Paris.

almost daily battles between the police and the occupying students for the past five days. Yesterday's violence started when a bus was hijacked and set on fire near the university. Police made a number of charges round the area and eventually into the buildings.

Demonstrators could be seen on the rooftops hurling furniture down to the police. As the riot squad charged into the building in the late afternoon one of these demonstrators was seen to jump on to the film set of a staircase. He plunged to his death.

According to police, he was running away from a fight with other students. According to the students he was running away from a particularly violent police assault. In any event, the students are strongly critical of the police action in storming into the building.

Despite other violent incidents at Grenoble, Caen and Rennes and despite hunger strikes by foreign students, the protest movement so far has done no more than threaten the date on which examinations may be held.

Terrorists try to kidnap Portuguese minister

Lisbon, May 14.—A left-wing terrorist group, with ties to the West German Baader Meinhof gang, plumed Portugal into political violence today with the attempt to kidnap of the Finance Minister and separate actions in which a suburban post office was robbed.

The little known April 25 Popular Forces (FP-25) in an anonymous telephone call to the national news agency, ANOP, claimed that a commando group, which wounded a policeman, had failed in its attempt to seize Senator Anibal Cavaco E. Silva, the Finance Minister, from his home earlier in the day.

There was no official confirmation of the claimed kidnapping attempt.

Earlier in the day, a policeman standing guard at the minister's home in the Lapa neighbourhood was shot in the chest by a sawn-off shotgun when he tried to question three people who drove repeatedly past the house.

Authorities said the would-be kidnapers left the policeman slightly wounded, abandoned their car and ran off.

During the day, police announced they had arrested three members of the terrorist group after a paramilitary guard was shot and killed when he tried to question a hitch-hiker on a country road near the southern town of Alcoutim.

They said Senator Onorio Marques, aged 21, shot and killed Senator Agostinho Ferreira, aged 42, with a "military revolver" when the Republican National Guardsman tried to question him.

The victim's brother, who had given the gunman a lift, and another guardsman overpowered Senator Marques.

He was said to have an automatic pistol and ammunition as well as hand grenades. Senator Marques and the other two men, Senator Luis Silva, Martins Lopes, aged 24, and Senator Cristovao Mendes Jacinto, aged 36, were said to have claimed membership of FP-25 which seeks to preserve the true conquests of Portugal's 1974 army coup.

Industrial action: Portuguese dock workers today called a two-day strike to begin at midnight in protest at the terms of a recent labour agreement.

Ministers agree on improving forces

Continued from page 1

United Nations resolution on sanctions, which the Nine have promised to implement, did not cover existing trade.

In a separate statement, Mr Pym said that as far as Britain was concerned present trade contracts would not be affected. He added that the United States did not fully understand that even the limited action envisaged by the Nine would be much more expensive for them than the full American embargo was for the United States.

A final decision on sanctions against Iran is to be taken by

EEC foreign ministers at their meeting in Naples.

Asked about participation in the Moscow Olympics, Mr Muskie said that a boycott was "an important and essential message to the Soviet Union", and it was "incomprehensible that citizens of democratic countries, athletes or otherwise, could not see this".

The Nato ministers reached broad agreement over the main objectives of the meeting, which were to take what steps seemed necessary in the light of the Afghanistan crisis and the further commitments which

US measures to control Cuban refugee influx

From David Cross
Washington, May 14

President Carter today announced steps which will initially stop the flight of refugees from Cuba, but could in the long run lead to an orderly exit of a limited number of them.

After an emergency meeting with his key advisers on the Cuban and Haitian refugee problem at the White House, Mr Carter appeared on television. The situation was extremely critical, he said, both for the refugees and for the American authorities trying to handle the influx.

He laid the blame on Dr Fidel Castro, who had refused to permit a "safe and orderly evacuation" of his citizens to the United States. As a result of the mass exodus at least seven Cubans had died because of heavy seas between Cuba and Key West in Florida.

The new policy he was outlining was based on three principles: To treat the refugees with fairness and humanity, to enforce existing American laws and to find a solution, with other Western nations, to their plight.

The President said the United States was ready to start an air and sea lift for certain kinds of refugees. These included Cubans with relations in the United States, political prisoners, and those adhering to the American and Peruvian missions in Havana.

OVERSEAS

US measures to control Cuban refugee influx

The Administration would have aircraft and ships ready for the transfer of such refugees, but processing of them must take place in Cuba rather than in the United States, as at present. He expected Dr Castro to agree to such a suggestion, although he had no assurances that he would, he said.

Mr Carter also said the Administration would open family registration offices in Miami and possibly other American cities where there are many Cuban-Americans, to receive the names of relatives eligible to enter the United States.

Meanwhile, United States coastguards would be informing all boats on their way to Cuba and those already there to pick up refugees to return home empty. Ships' captains and owners who defied the order would be subject to fines and other penalties, including the confiscation of their vessels, Mr Carter said.

In addition, he said that extradition proceedings would be started in the United States to return some 400 Cuban criminals, whom Dr Castro had freed and expelled with the refugees.

Mr Carter said the Administration would consult other nations and international organizations like the United Nations and the Organization of American States to find a permanent solution to the refugee problem.

Iran alleges US sent in team of saboteurs

Tehran, May 14.—President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr said today he had received information from the United States that an American sabotage squad had landed in Iran to create unrest.

He told the state radio: "This morning, I had a telephone call from the United States saying that 96 Americans had been brought into various places and it is understood they will start sabotage operations within two weeks." But he gave no indication of who had given the information.

The President said 19 Iranians, who were long-standing residents of the United States, had been sent in to lead the operations.

He ordered the security forces to neutralize the sabotage plot, adding that if some incidents did occur this should not be seen as a reflection on the armed forces.

Part of the sabotage plot was to create suspicion among Iranians about the loyalty of the armed forces, he claimed.

The Prosecutor-General's office announced today that two Americans had been arrested in Iran in connection with the sabotage plot. The names were not disclosed.—Reuters and AP.

Liberian officers arrested for plotting counter coup

Monrovia, May 14.—Several Liberian Army officers have been arrested for preparing a counter coup against the new military Government.

Mr Bennie Pearson, the Defence Minister, said today that Mr Pearson did not elaborate, but said he would give further details later. Witnesses said at least 15 people were arrested.

The new Government, led by Master Sergeant Samuel Doe, said 28, came to power in a military coup on April 12. The coup, carried out by non-commissioned officers, turned the command structure in the Army on its head.

The People's Redemption Council, which has assumed all executive and legislative powers, consists of sergeants, corporals, and privates.

Following an international outcry against the executions of prominent Liberians, Sergeant Doe announced there would be no more. But trials of officials from the deposed government of President Tolson are continuing.—Reuters.

13 killed as S African train hits bus

Solomonville, South Africa, May 14.—A goods train crashed into a bus packed with black commuters today killing at least 13 people and injuring 56 others, 16 seriously.

Hospital officials said the death toll could be even higher. Many of the injured were treated in the corridors of the small Pietersburg Hospital, about 25 miles from the crash site.

Police said the bus may have stalled on a level crossing.

Spanish editor to be tried for insulting police

From Harry Debelius
Madrid, May 14

A newspaper editor who was fined and given a three-month suspended sentence only five days ago for contempt of constituted authority, has been ordered to stand trial on another charge, this time for "insulting the police".

The new case involving Señor Juan Luis Cebrian, the editor-in-chief of the independent Madrid newspaper *El País*, is linked to the publication of advertisements announcing the funerals of two young men "killed by police" during student demonstrations in the capital.

They died of bullet wounds after police opened fire on rioters who allegedly surrounded them. The results of an investigation into the incident have not yet been announced and no one has been brought to trial so far in connection with the killings.

Señor Cebrian was formally notified yesterday that he is to be tried.

In the past four years he has been tried five times.

Unruly Arsenal fans miss Valencia match

Brussels, May 14.—More than 20 Arsenal fans in Brussels for their team's European Cup Winners Cup Final match tonight, were being arrested after a series of incidents, police said.

Most will be charged with fighting, drunkenness or stealing. They all missed the game against Valencia. No Spanish supporters had been arrested.

The British Consulate said 14,000 fans were expected, but none of the incidents had been reported to it.

Many of the fans paraded flags and Arsenal banners while others confronted Valencia supporters and set off fireworks before being moved on by police.—Reuters.

Date set for customs men's trial

From Alan McGregor
Geneva, May 14

June 17 has been set for the opening of the trial before a Zurich court of two French fiscal investigators who were arrested in Basle last month while meeting a former Zurich employee of the Union Bank of Switzerland. They are accused of having intended to secure from him a list of names of French holders of accounts.

The principal accused, M Bernard Rui, aged 33, was released last night on bail of 50,000 Swiss francs (£13,227). His colleague, M Pierre Schultz, aged 51, accused by the Swiss of being an accomplice, was freed on Friday night. They had been held in separate prisons.

According to his counsel, charges against M Rui include illegal activities on behalf of a foreign state, economic espionage and violation of the federal secrecy law on banks and savings banks.

The lawyer said the men's Swiss contact, Mr Hermann Stroehlin, has been questioned by the authorities as a witness.

According to Swiss newspapers, he served to lure the Frenchmen, from a special unit of the customs administration, to a rendezvous at the buffet of Basle railway station.

Arrests in Paris court as women are remanded

From Our Correspondent
Paris, May 14

Three West German Women, wanted for questioning about terrorist activities, made a brief appearance before the French Court of Appeal this afternoon. The hearing ended with a demonstration in court in which five young people were arrested.

One of the three women, Fraulein Sieglinde Hoffman, is wanted in West Germany in connection with the murder in 1977 of Herr Jürgen, a director of the Dresdner Bank. In court today she turned on the interpreter and told him not to shout so loudly after she had refused to answer questions or to confirm her identity.

The other two, Fraulein Ingrid Barabas and Fraulein Regina Nicolai, also refused to

Corsican autonomists reply with guns to sentences

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, May 14

The reaction of Corsican autonomists to the heavy sentences handed down by the Court for State Security last night on seven of their comrades responsible for a series of bomb attacks in Ajaccio in July, 1978, has not been long delayed. A riot police bus stationed in front of the Iranian Embassy on the Avenue d'Iena, in the heart of Paris, was sprayed with several bursts of machine-gun fire shortly before 7 am.

Shots were also fired at other riot police patrolling the avenue. Four men were injured, one seriously, but his life is not in danger. A home-made bomb thrown at the bus

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OVERSEAS

President Carter and Mr Reagan both near to nomination

From David Cross

Washington, May 14—President Carter and Mr Ronald Reagan have once again both been beaten by the Democratic and Republican challengers for the presidential nominations of their parties. Clear victories by both men in yesterday's primaries in Maryland and Nebraska have brought them both to within some 10 per cent of the total delegates needed to win the nomination.

On the Republican side, the former Governor of California beat Mr George Bush, the former Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, by a five to one margin in Nebraska and by seven percentage points in Maryland.

Mr John Anderson, the member of the House of Representatives who has withdrawn from the Republican contest, to stand in the general election in November as an independent, was still in the ballot in both states and picked up a 9 per cent share of the vote in Maryland and 6 per cent in Nebraska.

Because of Mr Reagan's perceived strength in the Middle West, Mr Bush had not bothered to campaign actively in Nebraska and his poor performance there clearly reflects this. But during the final days of the election campaign in Maryland, he had tried to woo liberal Republicans in urban areas like Baltimore and the Washington suburbs although his efforts failed to compensate for Mr Reagan's strength in the rural areas.

Senator Edward Kennedy, too, had worked hard in the urban areas of Maryland to persuade Democrats that he alone could resolve the country's worsening economic problems. But his effort gained him only 38 per cent of the

total vote, compared with Mr Carter's 47 per cent share. The results were identical in Nebraska for both men.

The most worrying aspect of the results for Mr Carter, in particular, was the large number of uncommitted Democrats—10 per cent in each state—who felt unable to vote for either candidate. This must bode ill for Mr Carter now that he has set his sights on beating Mr Reagan in November.

Predictably, both front-runners were delighted with yesterday's results, while the losers promised to soldier on to the next round of primaries next week.

Voters go to the polls in Michigan and Oregon on Tuesday and in Arkansas, Idaho, Kentucky and Nevada the week after that. The final round of primary elections will take place on June 3 when three huge states—California, New Jersey and Ohio—cast their ballots for Democratic and Republican delegates.

If Mr Reagan fares as well as expected during the rest of this month, he may well have the Republican nomination sewn up before the June 3 primaries. Mr Carter has 871 delegates of the 908 he needs to win the nomination, while President Carter has 1,521 delegates of the 1,666 he needs.

The results of yesterday's primaries were as follows:

State	Party	Candidate	Per cent
Maryland	Democrat	Carter	47
	Republican	Reagan	38
	Independent	Anderson	15
Nebraska	Democrat	Carter	47
	Republican	Reagan	38
	Independent	Anderson	15

Uganda leader is accused of ridiculing armed forces

From Charles Harrison

Nairobi, May 14

A presidential commission, so far unidentified, has announced that it has taken over the duties of President Godfrey Binaisa in Uganda, in the backing of the armed forces. The announcement of the dismissal of Mr Binaisa, who was installed as President last June, was made in a statement signed by Mr Paulo Muvunga, the Labour Minister, as chairman of the Military Commission of the ruling Uganda National Liberation Front.

It said the Presidential Commission would have three or four members, but they were not named. It is assumed that Mr Muvunga is the leading figure in the commission.

Close to Mr Muvunga is the Army chief of staff, Brigadier David Oyite-Ojok, whose refusal to accept a dismissal order from President Binaisa precipitated the crisis last weekend.

Brigadier Oyite-Ojok, who was

in Kampala today, gave the impression of being in full control of the situation.

The statement announcing Mr Binaisa's dismissal accused him of betraying Ugandans and Tanzanians who had died in the fight to overthrow President Amin, "degrading and ridiculing" the Tanzanian and Ugandan armed forces, of promoting tribalism, and of corruption.

The Cabinet was dissolved, and executive authority vested in a presidential commission.

Mr Binaisa remained at State House, Entebbe, which is guarded by Tanzanian troops. Mr Muvunga and Brigadier Oyite-Ojok are supporting Dr Milton Obote, the former President, who has been in exile in Tanzania since 1971.

Mr Obote, who recently announced that he would return to Uganda on May 27, Ugandans say they regard the coup as a preliminary to a move to install Dr Obote as President.

Bishops complain that pressure of work in Vatican delays important decisions

From Peter Nichols

Rome, May 14

Pope John Paul II returned this week from his sweep through black African countries to a bare two months of routine here before setting off on his next long journey. This will take him to Brazil and will be followed, probably in November, by a Far Eastern tour.

The rewards, such as they may be, of these journeys are now being more rationally weighed against the disadvantages. The Catholic Church's central administration for which the Pope is ultimately responsible, is under strain to say the least. To give one example, from a country which will probably be a stopping-point on the Pope's Asian swing in the autumn, the ten bishops of Thailand had on the agenda last week the problem of what to do when they can obtain no answer from the Vatican to letters on subjects of real importance.

Their particular worry concerned plans for coming to Rome to report to the Pope on the state of their dioceses. A visit to Rome at regular intervals is obligatory for all bishops and this visitation ad limina apostolorum is especially important for bishops who have little other chance to come to Europe. It represents a symbol of the Roman Church's unity, which must be seen as an encouragement to someone working solidly as best he can among Buddhists and non-Catholics out of the total Thai population, but a chance to return to the physical inspiration provided by the apostolic association of the Church's historic centre.

This ignoring of distant pastors also reduces the credibility of the Pope's own acceptance of the idea of collegiality about which he speaks so much, meaning the responsibility of all the bishops in the government of the Church as a whole. If they cannot manage to penetrate the Curia to the point of fixing dates for their regular journeys to Rome, prescribed by Roman law, they can hardly be expected to feel co-responsible.

Thai Catholics genuinely hope that the Pope's Far Eastern journey will bring him to Bangkok. They feel it will strengthen their numerically weak position and help them in their more active role in Thai society which they have attempted to develop in the last decade. Their work in collaboration with Buddhists, in organizing agricultural co-operatives, leadership courses in the rural areas and loans in the form of crops and animals, has marked a notable evolution in Catholic affairs. And it has not

been without its dangers given the nature of the regime. They feel that the presence, however fleeting, of an internationally famous Pope would be a help, whatever it may do to the bureaucratic work accumulating behind him in Rome.

That is not the case in the Philippines, where there are a surprising number of Roman Catholics who feel that the Pope would have been advised to go to Manila, although the country is the one solidly Catholic country in the whole of Asia.

Of course, the crowds will cheer. But two issues keep arising in talks with committed Catholics in the Philippines. One is that it cannot but lend prestige to the regime of President Marcos and his wife, the "conjugal dictatorship" as it is locally called. The other is that the Pope's visit has already been postponed twice because, on at least one occasion, the ruling party showed every intention of insisting on being host rather than the bishops who had officially invited the Pope.

The second reason is that the Roman Church in the Philippines is, in part, uneasily emerging from its traditional posture as a part of the establishment. It has the opposite problem to Thai Catholics. This has meant emerging from an uncritical position to one which makes the Church—or that part of it willing to take risks—the

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Of course, the crowds will cheer. But two issues keep arising in talks with committed Catholics in the Philippines. One is that it cannot but lend prestige to the regime of President Marcos and his wife, the "conjugal dictatorship" as it is locally called. The other is that the Pope's visit has already been postponed twice because, on at least one occasion, the ruling party showed every intention of insisting on being host rather than the bishops who had officially invited the Pope.

The second reason is that the Roman Church in the Philippines is, in part, uneasily emerging from its traditional posture as a part of the establishment. It has the opposite problem to Thai Catholics. This has meant emerging from an uncritical position to one which makes the Church—or that part of it willing to take risks—the

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This ignoring of distant pastors also reduces the credibility of the Pope's own acceptance of the idea of collegiality about which he speaks so much, meaning the responsibility of all the bishops in the government of the Church as a whole. If they cannot manage to penetrate the Curia to the point of fixing dates for their regular journeys to Rome, prescribed by Roman law, they can hardly be expected to feel co-responsible.

Thai Catholics genuinely hope that the Pope's Far Eastern journey will bring him to Bangkok. They feel it will strengthen their numerically weak position and help them in their more active role in Thai society which they have attempted to develop in the last decade. Their work in collaboration with Buddhists, in organizing agricultural co-operatives, leadership courses in the rural areas and loans in the form of crops and animals, has marked a notable evolution in Catholic affairs. And it has not

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Pope's travels put church administration under strain

From Peter Nichols

Rome, May 14

Pope John Paul II returned this week from his sweep through black African countries to a bare two months of routine here before setting off on his next long journey. This will take him to Brazil and will be followed, probably in November, by a Far Eastern tour.

The rewards, such as they may be, of these journeys are now being more rationally weighed against the disadvantages. The Catholic Church's central administration for which the Pope is ultimately responsible, is under strain to say the least. To give one example, from a country which will probably be a stopping-point on the Pope's Asian swing in the autumn, the ten bishops of Thailand had on the agenda last week the problem of what to do when they can obtain no answer from the Vatican to letters on subjects of real importance.

Their particular worry concerned plans for coming to Rome to report to the Pope on the state of their dioceses. A visit to Rome at regular intervals is obligatory for all bishops and this visitation ad limina apostolorum is especially important for bishops who have little other chance to come to Europe. It represents a symbol of the Roman Church's unity, which must be seen as an encouragement to someone working solidly as best he can among Buddhists and non-Catholics out of the total Thai population, but a chance to return to the physical inspiration provided by the apostolic association of the Church's historic centre.

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Australian tames lions of the Senate

From Frank Vogt

US Economics Correspondent

Washington, May 14

Senator Adlai Stevenson, Illinois, lamented today that after two days of intense "battles" into the White House dealings of Mr. Ronald Reagan, the Australian newspaper publisher and business man, he felt like a coroner's inquest to catch the death was due to natural causes, under mysterious circumstances.

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Egypt calls for peace talks to be resumed

From Our Correspondent

Cairo, May 14

President Sadat of Egypt said today that he had agreed to urge President Carter to resume the suspended negotiations with Israel over Palestinian autonomy, despite the "formidable" gap separating both sides.

He told Parliament that he did not believe a definite agreement would be reached with Israel by the May 26 deadline. However, Egypt had to go on with talks as specified by the Middle East peace accords.

In his address, President Sadat also said he revoked martial law, abolished two taxes related to defence, ordered price decreases on essential commodities and banned extremist religious movements.

Mr Sadat announced that he would head the Government, assuming the duties of Prime Minister, but it was not immediately known whether he would also take the title.

On the negotiations with Israel, he said it would be "very dangerous" if the parties failed to reach a formula on self-rule for the 1,200,000 Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza strip.

His aides discounted the possibility of an American-

Egyptian-Israeli summit meeting.

Cairo, May 14

Israeli view: Notwithstanding the evidence of failure, Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Foreign Minister, maintained that steady progress was being made on the West Bank autonomy talks, which he expected to resume shortly (our Diplomatic correspondent writes).

Mr Shamir, who was speaking at the end of a private visit to London, said he never regarded May 26 as a deadline for the talks. It would not be a tragedy if negotiations ran on "another couple of weeks".

Pressed on this timetable, he said: "Months are also composed of weeks."

Describing his talk with Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, on Tuesday as useful, Mr Shamir said he was convinced that the British Government would not do anything to upset the Camp David process. There was no question of promoting a British or European initiative. In any case, it would be impossible to assume the United Nations Resolution 242.

Asked why he remained hopeful, Mr Shamir said he had taken part in negotiations before. Progress had been made. Although there were difficulties and differences, they had achieved solutions. The talks would go on, step by step.



Mr Ian Smith pointing out to Mr Robert Mugabe the Prime Minister's seat after his successor made for the Opposition benches by mistake

OVERSEAS

Nepal's voters reject a Western-style multiparty system

From Richard Wieg
Delhi, May 14

Anti-riot officers were patrolling the streets of Kathmandu to forestall any street protests after the official announcement today of the results in Nepal's referendum of May 2. It had given a 54 per cent victory to the upholders of the partyless Panchayat (council) system under the leadership of the king which was introduced 19 years ago.

King Birendra in a broadcast made after the announcement promised to take advice from various sections of the people about "necessary amendments" to the constitution which he had already promised before the referendum. He coupled this with a warning that no one should attempt to create problems for the country's peaceful political evolution after the people's verdict had been in favour of the Panchayat system.

The leading political figures who had campaigned for a democratic Western-style parliamentary system based on a multiplicity of political parties, expressed scepticism about the official result.

Mr B. P. Koirala, aged 66, the former Prime Minister and leader of the Nepali Congress Party, who had hoped the referendum would bring him close to resuming his old post after years in exile and prison, said: "I accept the verdict of the referendum, unexplained and inexplicable as it may be."

According to the Election Commission there were more than 300,000 spoiled or invalid ballots among the 4,800,000 votes polled. There were 2,433,000 votes for the Panchayat system, it said, and 2,007,000 for the multiparty system. There was a 66 per cent turnout.

The King did not mention it in his broadcast but it is taken for granted that there will be a general election early next year. The forthcoming monsoon rains and then winter effectively prevent any earlier consultation. Last December, King Birendra committed himself, declaring: "From now on all elections to the national legislature will be on the basis of adult franchise."

Under the Panchayat system the National Assembly was elected indirectly by less than 1,000 local dignitaries.

Something of particular importance emerging from the referendum result is that the present political team, entirely the product of the Panchayat system, can claim the people's mandate for staying in power up to the election closely advising the King at all stages. Secondly, the monarch's role remains paramount.

Even though most advocates of the multiparty system sought throughout the referendum campaign to avoid the issue of the King's absolute powers, an outright victory for their cause in the referendum would have indicated a clear popular preference for sovereignty lying solely with Parliament.

The referendum result showed the advantages for those in power in organizing a consultation in one of Asia's poorest and most backward nations. Nepal is virtually without roads on higher altitudes, and the Panchayat system was the only political organization many of the Himalayan village voters knew.

Supporters of the multiparty system canvassed only about one-third of the country. The results also show the ineffectiveness of the tens of thousands of students who abandoned classes weeks ago to go to the hills to proselytise the villagers.

The supporters of the Nepali Congress and the two communist groups—all political parties remained banned despite the referendum campaign.

There is a national literacy figure of less than 20 per cent and 2 per cent among village women as well as extreme poverty.

The advocates of the multiparty system, and the students who brought on the referendum by violent demonstrations against the present system last year, clearly did not prove attractive to a majority of voters.



Chairman Hua Guofeng meets Mr Callaghan in Peking. The former British Prime Minister is on a 12-day visit to China.

Koreans call in troops as protests grow

From Jacqueline Reddi
Seoul, May 14

Hundreds of South Korean troops from the Seoul capital garrison command, supported by several armoured troop carriers, moved into the city centre this evening after riot police failed to disperse a large crowd of demonstrating students.

The troops took up positions outside the central police headquarters, behind the United States Embassy, along the side roads of the city's Central Avenue and sealed off the entrances to the Blue House, the presidential residence.

Earlier in the afternoon a crowd of students from universities in different parts of Seoul, estimated by witnesses at more than 30,000, gathered in front of the central railway station. Linking arms and chanting slogans, the students, about a quarter of them women, marched through the town centre towards the city hall which houses the Seoul municipal offices.

When they got to within 50 yards of the city hall, about 200 riot police, wearing metal helmets and masks, tried to drive them back, clubbing many of them to the ground.

The students broke ranks and dispersed down side streets where some, caught in clouds of tear gas, were grabbed by police and taken away in armoured lorries. But at least 10,000 regrouped later and sat in the streets in spite of pouring rain. Many offices in the town centre sent employees home at about 4 pm and put up metal shutters to seal off entrances to the office blocks.

The demonstrating students were calling for the resignations of Mr Shin Hyeon-taek, the Prime Minister, and the newly appointed chief of the Korean Central Intelligence Agency (KCIA), Lieutenant General Chun Doo-hwan. They have issued an ultimatum to the government to lift martial law by tomorrow and are demanding the restoration of full democracy.

Students who broke out of their campus onto the streets of Seoul yesterday for the first time since the military takeover in 1979, gathered in the university grounds by tear gas and remained there all night.

Mr Shin called an emergency meeting of the ministers concerned with security. Mr Kim Ok-Gill, the Education Minister, and General Chun, today

Last car strikers go back to work in Sao Paulo

From Our Correspondent
Sao Paulo, May 14

Brazil's motor industry is again working at full speed after the end of the 41 day strike which resulted in the loss of some 65,000 vehicles and a loss to all industries concerned of \$1,500m (about £680m).

Workers still on strike in Sao Bernardo, the only Sao Paulo industrial suburb still holding out at the weekend, met in the parish church on Sunday and voted to return to work.

They went back defiantly vowing to work to rule, and not to co-operate with the management, although output is almost back to normal.

The leader of the Sao Bernardo union, Senhor Luis Ignacio da Silva, with eight others, is still in custody, charged with offences against the national security law. It remains to be seen whether the Government will continue with its apparent aim of politically neutralizing Senhor da Silva, founder of the new Workers, or Labour Party.

World view

Brazil and Argentina forge closer ties as US influence wanes

by Arrigo Levi

What is happening, as Señor Camillo told me, "belongs to the sphere of state relations". The road to the new co-operation agreements was opened last autumn when the two countries finally patched up their old quarrel concerning the use of the Parana river waters. Once this problem of "traditional diplomacy" was solved, the two governments embarked on a new exercise of atomic-age diplomacy, and were quite successful.

Señor Saravia Guereiro explained to me his country's new dynamism in foreign policy—it is aimed in all directions, but it concerns first of all Latin America—as a reaction to the "especially difficult" world situation, which raises great risks, even for a country like Brazil.

Although it is not an alliance, Señor Ramiro Saravia Guereiro, the Brazilian Foreign Minister, told me on the eve of the President's trip, the new entente extends to a very wide range of economic and technological fields. It will even have unexpected political implications.

I understand that the final document of the visit will include a political statement of great importance. The two Presidents are expected to state that the idea of a pluralistic democracy and the existence of political parties represent essential elements of Brazilian and Argentine historic tradition. This passage, which is being apparently included, on President Jorge Videla's request, may raise hopes of Argentine immigration sooner or later. Brazil's *Abertura*, the process of democratisation which has already transformed radically, for the better, the Brazilian political system.

The architects of this visit—among them Argentina's brilliant Ambassador in Brasilia, Señor Oscar Camillo, and the Argentine Brazilian General Golbery de Couto e Silva, President Figueiredo's "grey eminence" who is the head of his household—deny, however, that this "approchement" has any ideological meaning.

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a bilateral pact for nuclear non-proliferation. It became possible only when, on both sides, the generals finally got the idea of the atomic bomb out of their heads."

After two decades of impressive growth, Latin America is beginning to have more confidence in its own future. This is particularly true of Brazil, in spite of present economic difficulties, and indeed the rest of the world, as Señor Saravia Guereiro told me, is "becoming more receptive" to the idea of having stronger links with Brazil.

In general, a gradually uniting Latin America would become a much more interesting economic and political partner for Europe, although the Europeans are slow to understand it.

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Correction

Owing to an error the concluding passage was omitted from Arrigo Levi's column last week. The column, which dealt with Mrs Thatcher's tactics in Europe should have ended as follows:

Right now, even her toughest admirers desperately fear that she may spoil it all in the end, and turn triumph into tragedy. Does she not sense the growing fears of some of her partners and strongest supporters so far, the smaller and richer nations, which may have suddenly understood what may be in store for them if, beyond the settlement of Britain's budgetary problems, the policies of equity and convergence finally prevail?

Unless the budgetary problem and that of agricultural prices are quickly solved, a series of actions and reactions will be started which could end by making Mrs Thatcher the prisoner and victim of her own strategies. The tragic result might be to push Britain out of Europe, although nobody wants it. A settlement at Luxembourg would have meant a triumph for Mrs Thatcher, but also a victory for Europe.

In Mrs Thatcher going to lose all her, and our prizes, due to a single fiscal wrong step? This would indeed be a tragedy for Britain, as much as for Europe.

Fears of Vietnam troops crossing into Thailand

From Neil Kelly
Bangkok, May 14

New signs of disagreement among South-East Asian governments over Kampuchea emerged today, together with reports of fears that increased fighting there could force Vietnamese troops to Thailand.

The Thai Foreign Ministry was startled by the remarks of Datuk Hussein Onn, the Malaysian Prime Minister, who told a press conference in Singapore that Thailand and Vietnam had changed their positions on Kampuchea in recent days.

The Prime Minister, who recently had meetings with Thai and Vietnamese leaders, would not elaborate.

An official Thai spokesman, indicating his astonishment, said there was no change in the Thai view which adhered to the agreed policy of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean), calling on Vietnam to withdraw from

Kampuchea in advance of a political solution of that country's problems.

There has been no public indication of a change of Vietnamese policy. Mr Nguyen Co Thach, the Foreign Minister, said only four days ago that the position in Kampuchea was irreversible and that Vietnam would stay there while China threatened Indo-China.

Mr Thach, who begins a four-day visit to Thailand on Saturday, described relations between his country and Asean as "two sides in trenches looking at each other".

Thai officials discounted reports of private Vietnamese warnings to Asian diplomats that the war season offensive, expected to be launched soon by the Khmer Rouge, could force Vietnamese troops into Thai border areas.

Some senior Western diplomats said they had heard the reports but had no way of substantiating them.

Tibetan reconciliation move

Delhi, May 14.—The Panchen Lama, who is second in the Tibetan Buddhist hierarchy, has sent a message to the Dalai Lama, living in exile in India, speaking appreciatively of the Dalai Lama's efforts to achieve rapprochement with the new Chinese leadership.

This is the first time since 1959, when the Dalai Lama, the temporal and spiritual leader of the Tibetans, fled Tibet for political refuge in India, that the Panchen Lama has made official contact with the Chinese.

The confirmation came during an interview with UNI, the

Indian News Agency had with the Dalai Lama, who is 44, in Dharamsala, from where he runs his Tibetan government in exile.

The Dalai Lama said his five-member Tibetan delegation which visited Peking and Lhasa late last year found the Panchen Lama in "good spirits and keen to meet me". The Dalai Lama has said he has received "definitely positive responses" on the conditions prevailing in his Chinese-controlled homeland and he may visit China—Agence France-Press.

Greek minister to visit Ankara

From Mario Modonao
Athens, May 14

Multilateral efforts to break the deadlock in Greek-Turkish relations are expected to begin as soon as the new Greek Government of Mr George Kallis obtains a vote of confidence from Parliament next week.

A good omen is that Mr Constantinos Mitsotakis, the new Foreign Minister, not only enjoys the respect of Western governments, but is also held in high esteem by Turkish officials. Mr Mitsotakis has announced his intention of visiting Ankara next month to attend the Nato Council of Ministers on June 25-26.

This will be the first visit by a Greek Foreign Minister to Turkey since the 1974 crisis provoked by the invasion of Cyprus. It will give Mr Mitsotakis an opportunity to meet his Turkish opposite number, Mr Hayrettin Erbakan, and to

discuss with him ways of continuing the Greek-Turkish diplomatic dialogue. Both sides consider this dialogue vital to avert the dangers of increasing friction.

In the latest Greek-Turkish incident last week, Turkish aircraft taking part in the Nato exercise "Dawn Patrol", which Greece boycotted, were intercepted for violating Greek airspace by Greek fighters.

There was an exchange of protests between Ankara and Athens, and Turkey also complained to Nato accusing Greece of interfering with Nato manoeuvres.

The Aegean is the main cause of Greek-Turkish differences, of which the most disturbing aspect at present is Turkey's objection to the unconditional reintroduction of Greece in the military wing of Nato.

General Bernard Rogers, the Nato Supreme Commander in Europe, whose first attempt to devise an acceptable compromise failed, is said to be preparing another one as soon as the political situation in Greece settles down.

His principal difficulty is to reconcile Greek sensitivity about any arrangements that may be seen as infringing Greek sovereignty in the Aegean, with Turkey's insistence on a greater share in Nato air defence of the Aegean which until the Greek withdrawal in 1974 had been under the jurisdiction of the Greek armed forces.

Nato is particularly anxious to restore the cohesion of its south-east European flank in view of the continuing Middle East crisis and increasing concern in the Balkan region after the death of President Tito of Yugoslavia.

At a press conference, members of the Action Network referred especially to Nestle, as the largest seller of baby milk in the Third World. Despite repeated claims by the company to abide by its promotion remains intensive, expensive and effective. Mr Edward Baer, of the United States Inter-Faith Centre on Corporate Responsibility, said,

Baby food firms accused

From Our Correspondent
Geneva, May 14

Extensive advertising of artificial baby milks to replace breast feeding is continuing in many Third World countries, the International Baby Food Action Network, a group of voluntary organizations, claimed today.

On the eve of discussions in the World Health Assembly on a draft code on infant feeding, the group listed some 200 recent examples of promotion of pro-

ducts by 19 companies in 33 countries.

At a press conference, members of the Action Network referred especially to Nestle, as the largest seller of baby milk in the Third World. Despite repeated claims by the company to abide by its promotion remains intensive, expensive and effective. Mr Edward Baer, of the United States Inter-Faith Centre on Corporate Responsibility, said,

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Two years' wait

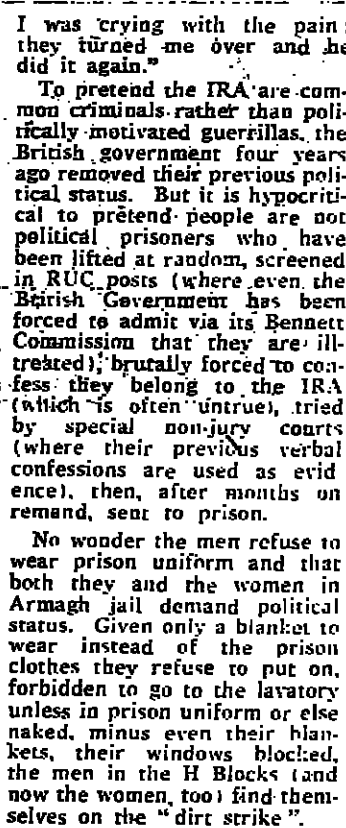
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t for trial

Two years ago I visited Turf Lodge (a Belfast Catholic neighbourhood) and was horri-

Richard and Gloria Stevens in Lucas Green Nursery, a 5½-acre herb farm near Woking (deepest Surrey). On weekday

Why we demand that the army leave Northern Ireland



nd crisp. Cooking the pastry
ell right through before fill-
g it is the surest way to
hieve pastry which is crisp
nderneath as well as at the

I was crying with the pain they turned me over and he did it again."

To pretend the IRA are common criminals rather than politically motivated guerrillas, the British government four years ago removed their previous political status. But it is hypocritical to pretend people are not political prisoners who have been lifted at random, screened in RUC posts (where even the British Government has been forced to admit it has no jurisdiction), and then sent to the Commission that they are ill-treated; brutally forced to confess they belong to the IRA (which is often untrue), tried by special non-jury courts (where their previous verbal confessions are used as evidence), then, after months on remand, sent to prison.

No wonder the men refuse to wear prison uniform and that both they and the women in Armagh jail demand political status. Given only a blanket to wear instead of the prison uniform, they refuse to put on the forbidden "go to the lavatory" unless in prison uniform or else naked, minus even their blankets, their windows blocked, the men in the H Blocks (and now the women, too) find themselves on the "dirt strike".

To return to the subject of my local greengrocer, he carries a good range of fresh herbs all year round. From where on earth could he have found dill in January, mint in February

Richard and Gloria Stevens in Lucas Green Nursery, a 5-acre herb farm near Woking (deapest Surrey). On weekday

nd crisp. Cooking the pastry
ell right through before fill-
g it is the surest way to
hieve pastry which is crisp
nderneath as well as at the

Knead the pastry very lightly and roll it out thinly on a floured surface. Rest it for about 5 minutes before lifting

Put the trotter and bacon in a large saucepan, cover with cold water, bring to the boil and drain immediately. Return

ENTERTAINMENTS

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THE ARTS

Golden keys to the heart of Crocker-Harris

The Browning Version/
A Harlequinade
Lyttelton

Irving Wardle

Having twice broken the bank by laying the safest of safe bets Michael Rudman now pursues his winning streak at the Lyttelton with the play Terence Rattigan said he would offer to a heavenly jury to justify his choice of profession. Even at the nadir of his career, nobody said a word against *The Browning Version*, and since we can now assume that he has sailed through the celestial audition, the piece is even more clearly recognizable than it was in 1948 as an impeccable measure of the English commercial tradition. More than any other West End hit I can think of, it proves that honesty, delicacy, psychological insight and all the other art theatre virtues you can think of are fully attainable within the supposedly life-denying disciplines of the well-made play.

Everything in the concentrated account of Andrew Crocker-Harris's last ignominious day in the public school where he spent 18 declining years is mechanically planned to explore the twin themes of poisonous deception and cruel truth: the theft of a chocolate, the constraining of the Agamemnon, and the bland ruling-class style of speech which enables the headmaster to deliver mean and wounding comments as if he were showering Crocker-Harris with a Posh pension and undying regard.

The effect of the snugly dovetailed episodes, calculated ironies, and conventional retribution is to do equal justice to every character and leave you feeling that nobody was to blame. With memories of Jean Kent taken into the defence, Michael Redgrave in the film version, this was not my starting impression of the play. The battle lines are much more tact-

Alec McCowen in *The Browning Version*

fully drawn on the Lyttelton stage. For one thing, as Mr Rudman's previous excursions into English middle-class comedy, the social appearances are beautifully kept up. For as long as any outsider is on the scene, the Crocker-Harris

could be a standard pedagogic couple. Geraldine McEwan does not overdo the wife's grand connexions or her heavy hints on the servant problem. Nor, when the couple are left alone, does she slip into the viper

routine. Rather they both slump into weary monosyllabic exchanges in which she presents an almost sleepwalking detachment from a life which gives her nothing she wants. As a result, when she does emit a quietly malicious laugh, and

run a knife through her husband's most cherished illusion, the moment freezes the blood, as if Clytemnestra had suddenly materialized out of Carl Tom's Victorian Gothic woodwork.

Nor, conversely, is there anything immediately vulnerable in Alec McCowen's Crocker-Harris. He is brisk, business-like, energetic and well up to parrying Antony Brown's unctuous headmaster on his own ground. There is an element of nervous tension in the performance that goes beyond the requirements of character, but this never obscures the chosen moment when McCowen shows a wounded gap in his armour. The moment of complete collapse, when Taplow gets under his guard with the parting gift, packs an astonishing emotional sequence, in which you see skin after skin being stripped away in a matter of seconds. But his recovery is complete; and even the marital confession to his wife's lover (Nicky Benson) is delivered in the old brisk detached manner as he is busily packing up. Crocker-Harris may be a foolproof part, but to judge by the emotional impact of his performance, McCowen has found a golden key to it.

When this double bill first appeared, there were some who said it was a worthy counterpart to Sheridan's *The Critic*. That is pitching it a bit high, but the piece does succeed in combining the rehearsal farce routine with a much more persuasive defence of entertainment theatre than Rattigan ever made out in his Aunt Edna articles. Some of the Arts Council jokes still have all their teeth. And the sight of the McCowen with the General Strike retains its full zest, even if Nicky Benson's distracted stage manager picks up more laughs than the principals.

Photograph by Donata Cooper

A dreamily energizing vision of Europeans growing up

The Berlin Theaterfest, although rightly called a theatre meeting, is no gathering of the best new plays and is not a place where actors are particularly honoured for their work. It is a time when productions are praised and directors applauded by a changing band of critics who select performances from everywhere in West Germany and bring them to West Berlin.

It should come as no surprise, then, that the production chosen to begin this year's festival is neither anything that could properly be called a play nor a performance in which anyone can be said to be acting in the traditional sense, but it is undeniably a theatre production, a spectacle of light, sound, movement, language, music and water. There is much of the spirit of modern American dance in the piece and something of the demandingly personal nature of Robert Wilson's work, yet Pina Bausch's vision is not an individual. It is non-literary, nature makes it even more starkly individual in Germany, where the common route to directorial success is based on

violent assaults on a traditional taste. The title of the piece is *Arien*, the German for arias, but there is an evident play on the word "Arien" which seems to have escaped the German critics. Perhaps it is simply because the German language has no word for pun, but it adds a coherence to the work which would remove some of the complaints.

Pina Bausch has never been able to escape complaints since she began her theatrical experiments, but she has steadily built up an enthusiastic audience that extends far beyond the small city of Wuppertal where she works, and it is perhaps the most individual theatre to emerge since Bar-lez's Schaubühne am Halleschen Ufer.

Arien uses dancers, some dialogue and a flooded stage to present a picture of the lives of three children into adults, particularly into European adults, and at times it looks rather like an Esther Williams water ballet devised by a benign Jean Genet. Women are treated as dolls by men who

roughly smear them with make-up, there are aggressive bouts of tickling that verge on sadism, and a line of can-can dancers advancing across the watery stage turns into a frightening military charge.

The piece is remarkably effective in pinpointing the emotional violence in seemingly gentle pastimes, and its most telling images are developments of children's games and rhymes, in English as well as German, which inevitably leave a solitary and scarcely triumphant victor. It is as if Pina Bausch is suggesting that Western society has been a gloomy game of musical chairs, the object being to eliminate everyone else.

She is anything but gloomy in her demonstrations but it is certainly Western society that she is illustrating, and the text, which is largely jokes, makes enough references to foreigners to give some weight to the pun-reading of "Arien". The movements are accompanied by musical arias, by Italian arias and black American songs, but it might be said

that there is one third world representative in the piece. There is a most remarkable and gentle hippopotamus that at first convinced some spectators that it was real, paddling through the water and bathing with an actress. But finding meanings is a matter of selectively choosing from the variety of images.

At two and a half hours, there were complaints that it was too long, but though it waddles a bit like the hippo and is frequently obscure it is constantly energizing. With elegant couples splashing about in evening dress, soft and frequent comedy, and a quietly stated belief in human contact it has the structure of a dream, and when is a dream too long? Pina Bausch will probably be seen in London's Sadler's Wells in the next year, but with something less aquatic.

New German plays of any value are rare at the moment, and the popular success of the Wuppertal theatre may be a reflection of that, but there are several new plays at the Theaterfest. The annual

success, by the Schaubühne am Halleschen Ufer is a new play by Ernst Jandl, *Am der Fremde*, which is consistently amusing in its portrait of a writer who lives his life in the third person, cautions on each of his actions as if he were a character in a novel. It lacks substance and falls down when it tries to add it, but the combination of restrained and lightly stylized direction by Ellen Hammer and imaginative, fastidious performance by Peter Fitz has kept it a pleasant experience. That cannot be said for an American play called *Shelia* by Anthony J. Ingrella which was meant to add a little fun to the guest programme. Despite some pop music, especially a lively girl called Joy Ryder, and some equally popular drag elements from Berlin nightclubs, the play was so absurd that the stature of Pina Bausch's non-verbal theatre grew with every word. A bowl of protest would be excessive. A wordless non-verbal gesture would be enough comment.

Ned Chaillet

ENO Gala
Coliseum

William Mann

More than generous measure of operatic scraps was offered by English National Opera on Tuesday night, at their gala performance in aid of the ENO and Sadler's Wells Benevolent Fund, an event attended by Prince and Princess Michael of Kent. The last item in the programme was just ending four hours after we had been bidden to take our seats. Only so, evidently, could all the available ENO favourite soloists be included (Josephine Barrow, for one, was missed).

Even so, some items stood out. The first half ended with Cwyneth Jones's ENO debut, in the closing scene from Strauss's *Salome*, a superb piece of dramatic singing, unspoiled by some forced notes. She had to be alone on the stage with her unsavoury silver dish, without her equally unsavoury mother and step-father, and dressed for a concert rather than as the Princess of Judea. Yet the scene was vividly recreated.

More statuesque, no less dramatic, was Rita Hunter's account of the mad scene in *Madama Butterfly*. In questa reggia, a sovereign example of singing in the grand manner, that huge and lustrous voice harnessed to an ideal musical match and agog made the most of every phrase and nuance.

Lord Harewood, who played the compare, told us that he wanted to include as many operas not yet in the ENO repertoire as possible, so Della Jones, their resident virtuoso mezzo-soprano, brought us all to the edge of our seats in an aria from Donizetti's *Alfred the Great*, and later the company's new Aida, Linda Esther Gray, poured forth lustrous, bright tone and vocal inflexion to make the heart miss a beat more. It was a performance to be good for the health. In "Dich, teure Halle" from *Tannhäuser*.

That it was a ladies evening was confirmed when Valerie Masterson sang excerpts from the garden scene in Gounod's *Faust*, with all the tonal delicacy and style we now expect, though John Brecknock, turned her to the left, Elene Hannan brought her tortured, greatly affecting Natasha from Sydney Opera House to the Coliseum, still more moving and expert now.

That was in an excerpt from Prokofiev's *War and Peace*, and again she had a cogent partner in the role of the Countess, Berukhov. All these excerpts were staged for the occasion, against new and masterly projections, rich in atmosphere, by David Collis.

The past was gloriously recalled in items from the third act of Wagner's *Meistersinger* with Norman Bailey's Sachs and Albertina Riedel as Stolzing, the present in the final ensemble from *Fidelio*. A jolly evocation of the Charleston era featured Eric Shilling as crooner and dancer, a happy interpolation. The musical tempo was as evocative as the costumes, and when David Lloyd-Jones, from ENO North, took the rostrum.

Eugene O'Neill

New Theatre, Cardiff

Kenneth Loveland

The question posed over the revival of *Eugene O'Neill* on the opening night of the Welsh National Opera's May season was whether a production which drew so much on the vitality of an imaginative singing actress and the assumption of character of a distinguished singing actor, and owed so much to a conductor deeply aware of the unique personality of Tchaikovsky's score, could repeat what was generally conceded to be a triumph when all three had departed. The result was a splendid affirmation of the company's decision to recast from its own resources. The symbolism of Andrei Serban's production was as evocative as ever, with Tatiana's release suggested as the floats through the corn beat by the Russian wind, reversal and rejection again implicit in the door which slams in Eugene's face, and Lensky's terrifying death just one example of Serban's drawing out of tensions.

Russell Smythe is already an O'Neill of poise and style, child and aloof, enough of a gentleman to sing between the nature of the plunge into the desperate realization of belated love urgently conveyed, the music characterfully and often beautifully sung. Rita Cullis is a Tatiana imaginative enough to surrender completely to the promptings of her impulsive dream-world, so tenderly realized that its shattering into fragments is all the more tragic, the new Tatiana of Act III acquiring a dignity within which tenderness can still be detected. A slightly stronger projection may be needed in some theatres, but a Tatiana of such communicative force is in the mould.

Arthur Davies is a Lensky ardent in love and savage in jealousy, and sings the farewell aria with a poignancy and eloquence that, too broken a strong impersonation in the making, even overcomes Serban's view of Lensky as a kind of Russian Schumann, perhaps the production's only miscalculation. Cynthia Suchan repeated her appealing Olga.

Wyn Davies has the measure of the score, particularly in his consistent underlining of the relationship between the PR and its music, and the emotional pattern unfolding on stage. The orchestra again gave a passionate response, though there were a few fluffs too many. With such strong reserves Eugene O'Neill is clearly going to remain one of the Welsh National's most attractive offerings for a long time.

Precariousness well reflected

The Estuary

Bush Theatre

Irving Wardle

Much as I admire the work of Robert Holman and the rest of the new provincial school, it is no longer quite the same thrill to tip toe over yet another of Grant Hicks's outdoor locations because of the prospect of overhearing a group of queering frustrated people resolving their discord against a resonant stretch of English landscape.

As in Mr Holman's *German Skerries* the setting of this 30-minute piece is a natural case in a heavily industrialized zone. Well up to the usual Hicks standard, it consists of a shingled bank beside the River Tees overlooking the estuary towards an ICI plant on which all the male characters depend for gainful employment. As the play opens, two of them are settling in for a night's fishing, the river will subside into mudflats. And, should you not have guessed, we are about to witness a turn of the tide in the characters' lives, with the landscape echoing their surging and

ebbing emotions like an Aeolian harp. With cryptic assistance from an ICI vegetarian who prefers metal detecting to fishing on humanitarian grounds, *The Estuary* concerns the Taylor family, a self-spoken and tactful clan torn by memories of incest and traumatic child-birth, and now riven by adultery and impending A-levels.

The first scene centres on a well-planned reversal of family roles in which the father, a man-to-man, goes gossip with his right-shoulder parent triggers off his father's confessions of the multiple affairs with which he has escaped a sexless marriage and which have led to the pregnancy of his latest girlfriend. It is a typical sign of Mr Holman's talent that the banalities of plot development (will father desert the matrimonial home?) are erased by the interest of the immediate situation. The censorious parent has exchanged status with the son, and is pleading for approval. Will their relationship stand the reversal?

The three scenes during which Mr Holman delays answering this question consist

of the backbone of his play. The effect of the first shock is to plunge young Mark, with his car and his mistress, straight back into the sulks and tantrums of adolescence, and these are only intensified when his headmistress mother arrives on the river-bank with her own quiet revelations of adolescent violation. The precariousness of these people is beautifully reflected in the fabric of the dialogue, and in the microscopically sensitive performances of Mark Eden, Richard Tolan and Tamara Hinchcock.

Sara Pia Anderson's production is less successful in lending conviction to the offstage miscarriage and ICI fire which exist in coarsely melodramatic parallel to the visible events, and almost suggests an apology for characters too low-spirited to create climaxes of their own. Fans of Royce Ryton's *Crown Airmen* will be glad to note that his *Motherdear*, chronicling the young Victoria's home life with Princess Alexandra, has moved from Birmingham (where Ned Chaillet reviewed it last month) to the Ambassadors.

London debuts

No stranger to the concert platform, but giving his first London solo recital, with Sylvia Jenkins, was the Hungarian-born cellist Laszlo Varga. By debut standards this would have been a most creditable performance, but perhaps one is entitled to raise one's expectations for a seasoned performer such as this.

With those criteria, although intonation and bowing were both secure, there were in Brahms's F major Sonata too few nuances, too few insights to mark it out as a performance of distinction. Mendelssohn's Sonata in D major, Op. 58, a work of more limited emotional range, fared better. Both Mr Varga and Miss Jenkins were technically superb here, attiling off the outer movements at a dazzling pace.

For impeccability of technique coupled with a high level of musicianship, it would be difficult to improve on of Doris Holroyd and Daxna Holroyd. Their recital was well planned — substantial works written for the medium by

Lutoslawski, Poulenc and Rachmaninov framing arrangements of Copeland and Granados — and brilliantly executed.

Elisha Gilroy's account of Rayel's *Le Tombeau de Chopin* was, both technically assured and stylistically on the right lines, but the "Forlana" and "Allegretto" could have been improved with more attention to tonal shading, subordinating some of the detail, and with more rhythmic alertness. Miss Gilroy could afford to give herself more time, to stand back from the music. Her performance of Chopin's *Barcarolle* was much better, but again in *Carnaval* she did not do herself justice by hurrying through some of the numbers; when she did relax and open out — as in "Eusebia" and "Ave" — she showed a side of her pianism, with nicely judged phrasing and swift rubato, of which I would like to have heard more. The Scottish soprano Linda Esther Gray had already cut her Wagnerian teeth in the role of Isolde with the Welsh National Opera. In her debut song

Music Deco

Wigmore Hall

Max Harrison

Programmes by the Music Deco Ensemble of voice, saxophone doubling clarinet, and piano tend to consist of collections of small pieces and as such are hard to assess as wholes. Wednesday evening's concert was no exception and by the end the lack of solid fare became wearying. Among the most enjoyable items were two sets of songs by Lord Berners, three in French and three in German manners. The former use ditty and witty texts by Jean Aubry, and like the German pieces, show a keen one might say malicious sense of style.

Meriel Dickinson is not a beautiful voice, but she has intelligence and humour, these being essential qualities for Berners. She also made something effective out of Nin's "Chant du veilleur", which is a rare case of a song with a saxophone obbligato. Christopher Gradwell, the group's reed player, is a good performer, capable of some virtuosity on his several instruments, but he had little of consequence to do on this occasion.

Martin's Clarinet Sonata, by turns perky and thoughtful, was his best piece by far. Waltz vanité by Rudy Wiedoye, a once popular saxophone soloist of the 1920s, was full of laboriously laboured, almost comical and lacked even period charm. Jolivet's *Fantaisie Impromptu* was graceful enough, but again old-fashioned.

There were also some piano solos from Christine Crowshaw, the most interesting being two pliantly jazzy Preludes by Martin. With the pieces composed specifically for Music Deco a move was made downmarket. Paul Reade's *Cartoons*, settings of quips by Justin St John, were a welcome way of getting a concert started; Alan Gout's *Kernels* was a medley of Jerome Kern's songs; while Anthony Bowles's *Harlequins* offered new settings of lyrics by Lorenz Hart, and a set rather well by Richard Rodgers. The less said about both the better.

Last night's television

Panorama

BBC 1

Michael Ratcliffe

Events rather overtook *Panorama*'s hostile investigation of Franz Josef Strauss but there was no reference to the defeat of his coalition in Sunday's *Land* election in the version of the programme I saw. Nor was there any suggestion, such as Patricia Clough reported in *The Times* last week, that Herr Strauss has not merely waited long for national power, but may even be losing stomach for the fight. Indeed, Tom Bower and Roger Bolton were not much concerned with his prospects at all, but with his record. Around too many episodes in his career, the Nazis, the Lockheed scandal, the *Spiegel* affair, Pincochet, Franco, a strong smell of doubt, the American trip as nothing more than a PR exercise designed to show the aspirant-chancellor at ease on the international scene. Where he diminished the case for the prosecution was in denying that as a PR exercise, Fifth Avenue, Mount Vernon, tin star, sweating red fat and all, had not undoubtedly succeeded in doing just that.

secret financial aid to extreme groups in Spain (shots of Herr Strauss)

For the defence, there was principally Herr Hans Klein, an MP and close colleague, which meant that there was virtually no defence at all. Mr Bower's handling of this wary and unattractive figure was hardly skilful: there was too much anger in the air between them. The programme also ended rather crassly with another supporter assuring us that Herr Strauss had changed and learned to adapt, whereas *Panorama* showed us their villain on a CSU platform singing the German national anthem.

More to the point was Herr Strauss's advertising consultant who said it was very hard to make a far man who sweats, and the remarkable film of Herr Strauss in the United States which proved that, though hard, it is not impossible. Mr Bower dismissed the American trip as nothing more than a PR exercise designed to show the aspirant-chancellor at ease on the international scene. Where he diminished the case for the prosecution was in denying that as a PR exercise, Fifth Avenue, Mount Vernon, tin star, sweating red fat and all, had not undoubtedly succeeded in doing just that.

Barry Millington

Racing

Hello Gorgeous (left) winning the Mecca-Danté Stakes at York

By Michael Seely

Chaim Herzog on the unpredictable human factor that foiled America's daring attempt to free the hostages in Iran

How going by the book set America on a fatal course

An analysis of the abortive American plan to rescue the United States hostages in Iran, which emerges from the details that have so far been published or have leaked out about the operation, reveals it to have been a daring plan of immense scope in which the technological capabilities available to the United States came into full play and which, having regard to the internal situation in Iran and the chaos which apparently pervades the city of Tehran, stood a very good chance of success.

The element of surprise was there: by all indications local friendly elements were alerted and were in a position to be of assistance after six months of inaction. The United States embassy was no longer a focus; the guards had become used to a daily routine and as a military force were poorly trained and organized; and alertness was presumably at a low level. From what has emerged about the plan, it was feasible, it was daring, it was well conceived and could well have succeeded.

It is surprising that the operation was not mounted at a low level, for the hostages by their very existence as such seem to be the only factor in favour of the Ayatollah Khomeini and his extremists.

In retrospect, having regard to the circumstances and the character of the militants, the kid gloves were all too evident in the diplomatic-economic approach.

The actual operation in its scope demonstrated the inherent ability and international flexibility of the United States forces. The collapse of the operation because of the failure of a hydraulic pump, on the third helicopter which broke down is all the more tragic. The helicopter is at best a delicate machine, and when pushed to the extreme ranges in which the helicopters in this operation were to be operated, it was absolutely illogical to assume that there would be no breakdowns.

Having regard to the enormous distances involved, the desert nature of the territory and the high stakes involved, it is difficult for a military observer to understand why only a 25 per cent redundancy factor was made available for an allowance was made for two helicopters to break down of a force of eight helicopters. It seems inconceivable that a redundancy rate of 100 per cent for every helicopter operated was not made available.

The operation has, however, once again exposed some of the weaknesses in American governmental

organization and society. The impression one gets from a post-mortem is lack of a clear division of powers at the command level between the military and the civilian elements.

By the very nature of the subject, a civilian, however important the position he holds, will frequently panic when placed in a situation which the military element would have taken into consideration and for which it would mentally have been prepared. This is what happened in the Bay of Pigs, and one cannot escape the impression that that is a degree of what happened in the Iranian operation.

The vulnerability of the American system in this cruel world, in which the free world faces cynical and unscrupulous forces which are prepared to descend to any depths of squalidness, was highlighted by the incredible suggestion by members of Congress that they should have been consulted in advance of such an operation in which secrecy and security are vital.

This only highlights the manner in which the leader of the free world is consciously tying his own hands in the face of an enemy which is free at all times to play all the dirty games in the book. And while the enemy was free to do so, the

United States had in the meantime publicly castrated the CIA, thus precluding in advance its ability to be in a position to operate in Iran in order to save the hostages.

All this highlights another failure in the American approach, namely a tendency to adhere too much to the book and to operate according to inflexible standard operating procedures which allow for little flexibility and create a mental inability to adapt rapidly to changing circumstances.

It may just be, for instance, that the book calls for a 25 per cent redundancy factor in helicopter operations, and that this in turn is based on highly sophisticated computer estimates and evaluations. But once the plan has moved into action, computers and books and tables mean little. The human factor must be the dominant one in such operations. It is the human factor and instinct which should set the standards, not computerized tables, especially in operations which are unconventional, because the computer is incapable of being unconventional.

This is a basic weakness in American society because of the complex nature which characterizes that society. Training in the Israeli defence



The remains of a burned-out American helicopter in Iran after the raid.

forces has always been based on the assumption that plans go wrong and machines break down, and that the overriding dominant factor is first and foremost achieving the mission—this requires an ability to adapt; the plan in the course of the operation to changing circumstances. In other words, the impression one gets is that the special United States force was working according to an inflexible plan, based on far too many details and detailed instructions, and allowing a minimum of flexibility and decision on the spot to the unit entrusted with

the mission. However, because this operation has been a warning to the lunatic fringe which is beginning to terrorize many parts of the world, that when put to the test the US is prepared to use the military option, and that in so doing it will have the support of the American people. The Iranian experience has obviously helped the American people to see the Vietnam syndrome, which makes it much more likely that the US will henceforth be prepared to flex its muscles as a leader in the free world.

The post-mortem will doubtless highlight many aspects of defence posture which have been neglected, but if the Iranian experience has awakened the American people to a realization of its ability in the face of the world, which face it around the world, then the free world may be able to look back at the episode as one which, in the analysis, contributed to its own security.

The author is the former ambassador to the United Nations.

Ronald Butt

Schools: who has the final say?

authority was taken. Mr Carlisle emphasized, solely on grounds of educational standards and he had rejected the proposal because the premises to which the majority of the school would have gone would have been "totally inadequate". It would have created the worst school in the area; the existing school was popular locally and was defended by staff, governors, and 12,000 local people. It was, not Mr Carlisle insisted, a capitulation to the pro-comprehensive lobby.

At Tameside this was different. The real decision was what were the wishes of the area, and how do you judge those wishes? Mr Carlisle admits that it was not an easy decision, particularly because of the "mammoth petition". On the other hand, the question had an election issue; the Conservative Party had always upheld local responsibility against the dictates of central government. The question, then, was purely one of educational soundness and Mr Carlisle concluded that the proposed comprehensive plans were educationally sound in the sense that both buildings and staff were adequate, and there would be proper educational provision. "Was I to reject a type of education which 83 per cent of the school population here, and in spite of the wishes of the area, say to Tameside, no, you may not have it?"

Put like that, Mr Carlisle's is a formidable argument so far as the formal position of the Secretary of State is concerned, but, of course, it does not deal with the basic question—which is whether it is right for the local education authorities to be settled by the result of local elections which are likely to be determined fundamentally (even where education is a specified issue) on quite different grounds.

Mr Carlisle was no less concerned about the inference I had drawn from his appeal to incoming local authorities of a different party to maintain stability by not unscrambling existing educational arrangements. I had concluded from the fact that the Conservatives had resigned in a reasonably definite way to a totally comprehensive system.

I think, however, that I am now clearer about how he regards stability. What he is saying, in effect, is that in a case like Tameside, where the authority over the long term is almost always Labour, and a Tory interlude is exceptional, then the price of stability has to be the acceptance of the system approved of by the party that is usually in office. It is on these grounds that he would expect an incoming Tory local authority which took over for three years only not to try to overturn the settlement.

Mr Carlisle agreed that he felt there was a finality, and a better chance of stability in going along with the Tameside plans, and by analogy, I take it that he would hope for the same forbearance from an incoming Labour authority in a normal Tory area. I assume that, if, for instance, Labour took over for what was likely to be a temporary term in Buckingham, on this argument they would be expected to behave with equal moderation. It looks as though Mr Carlisle is standing on something like the principle on which the German war of religion were settled in the 16th century: *cuius regio, eius religio*, which may be loosely rendered in this context: "the usually reigning local party has the right to determine educational doctrine".

The trouble is that whereas the Tories would be willing to settle for this, I doubt whether the Labour Party would; where they get a foothold, they will move fast to turn things their way—and what is a Tory Education Secretary to do then? My impression is that Mr Carlisle is well aware of the improbability that the Labour Party will play the game his way, and if so, my suggestion that the Tories gentlemanly tactics are putting us on the road to a monolithic comprehensive system still stands.

I agree, however, that there is little that Mr Carlisle himself can do about it. It arises from the way in which educational responsibility is divided and the fact that the Tories do not have the initiative in the matter. As Labour has, and believes that different systems work

better in different places. The problem that faces Mr Carlisle is, in fact, the responsibility of the mixed-up Tory policy on education that he has inherited. It also arises because the Tories actually believe in local responsibility, as I have said, and Mr Heath seems to be doing his best to reverse this distinction.

It is therefore hard for a Tory Secretary of State to overturn the decisions of the locally elected party, even if he does not believe that (on education) it adequately reflects local opinion—which is why I advanced the suggestion that education should be run by authorities elected locally solely to run it.

The dilemma goes even deeper. The Education Secretary is responsible for the standards of education, but has no control over the funding of education, even though some 60 per cent of education expenditure comes from the central government, and the balance from the rates. (At the same time, diminishing resources in the present financial climate will increasingly create difficulties between different educational areas—and yet the Education Secretary is responsible for ensuring the maintenance of a national standard.)

Again while it is difficult for a Secretary of State (as Mr Carlisle admits) to turn down a comprehensive system when 83 per cent of the school population go to such schools, they are also faced with the dilemma that in certain areas, the comprehensive system (because of the social structure of the local population) disadvantages some clever children.

The Government has done something about this in the recent Education Act, which requires a local authority to pay for a child to go to school in a neighbouring borough if he obtains a school place in that borough, but will no longer have to go on bonded knee to the local bureaucrats for this concession.

The assisted places scheme is also an attempt to deal with the same problem, but it is a strange irony that the state, having extracted first grammar and then direct grant schools from its structure, now has to compensate by providing highly elitist places for (say) two per cent of independent schools.

I have now tried to put Mr Carlisle's case more thoroughly, but the fact remains that the Tory Party does not yet know where it ought to stand on central versus state authority in education, and sooner or later the initiative will be left to the Labour Party; it will have to sort itself out.

When my anthology of columns was published a few months ago, one of the reviewers (he was one of the more sympathetic among them, too) gave thanks that I had not included any of what he called my "food, potage, and French-sauce-motivated meal". This, as Bartle Wrooster used to say, made the old head swim a bit; they really are thoughtful and understanding people, lovers of the arts and perceptive, and who believe that to enjoy good food, and to say so, is literally obscene. Note that in the case of this particular commentator—Mr Christopher Booker—we are not dealing with an instance of all-embracing philistinism of the genuine kind of art in all its manifestations displayed by, say, Prince Ego: many of the refreshment and stimulating conversation about music and books I have had with Mr Booker. Yet when it comes to the art of gastronomy, he is a real snob, and he is not a snob in the sense of a snob of course, but an art without doubt, and one which in its practitioners calls for, and receives, the dedication and creativeness of any other artist—what I hear when I discuss it is on one hand the squealing of stuck pigs, which I do not mind about, and on the other the fastidious disdain of Mr Booker, which I do.

Of course, those are not the only tones I hear. Among the letters I just when I write a column on food there are always some from correspondents who either wish to exchange their own views and reminiscences of the subject (I look forward, for instance, to a letter in a day or two from my professional friend, or who—this I find more interesting and significant—declare that they cannot themselves afford such experiences, but are always pleased to read about mine: in this attitude they are identical, even down to the phraseology, to those correspondents who write to say that they cannot get to Covent Garden, or Salisbury, but take much vicarious pleasure in the stimulation of their own music-loving when I write about some absorbing operatic evening I have spent.

As I say, I do not care about the reaction of the pigs; indeed, I derive a certain satisfaction from the knowledge that I am upsetting them. But I am quite unable to understand the reaction of a cultivated man whose horror at the thought of someone enjoying the pleasures of the palate can lead him to bestialize the experience into "some disgusting, French-sauce-motivated meal".

After that, I went on to the volatile *sauté aux morilles*, which was neither more agreeable than what, it says, except that the bird was tender as a bruise, and the little crinkly mushrooms could hardly have been picked earlier than that, and, if not afternoon, I dwell long upon the wine-list, and the end felt that the Riesling had been so perfectly matched to the fish, and the memory of its crispness was so enduring, that I could safely repeat it for the chicken; nor did I regret my decision. Then came revelation; at

All of which is by way of a warning, akin to the one on the side of the cigarette packets, about today's column, for those who dislike this sort of thing, this is the sort of thing they dislike. Having recently had business which took me to Freiburg-im-Breisgau, just across the Rhine, I decided to retreat via the Rhine, where I dined once more at the Auberge de l'Ul of the brothers Heberlein, and before I had time to get to the first time at the Hostellerie du Chateau, Servin, where, the hand that rocks the cradle is that of Mr Dominikus Maury, who looks, incidentally, about nine years old.

I have written before, and shall no doubt write again, about Paul Heberlein's salmon soufflé. This time, however, I decided to miss it, and to start instead with the ballotine of sole and eel, accompanied by a Hugel Riesling from the amazing repertoire of Alsatian wines the Auberge smokes. (There was a bonus; as the sommelier presented the bottle for my inspection, a tall, dark man, looking somewhat like Mr Robert Maxwell, passed by. The wine waiter, who had been directed to the subject of the bottle, for instance, to a letter in a day or two from my professional friend, or who—this I find more interesting and significant—declare that they cannot themselves afford such experiences, but are always pleased to read about mine: in this attitude they are identical, even down to the phraseology, to those correspondents who write to say that they cannot get to Covent Garden, or Salisbury, but take much vicarious pleasure in the stimulation of their own music-loving when I write about some absorbing operatic evening I have spent.

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Bernard Levin

Returning to the sauce...

least, it came after the chapeau, after the local one, chosen blind but justifying my integrity (there was no local goat's cheese, no doubt because there are no local goats, but the ways of the laundress of Europe are a mystery to me). I do not recall having previously seen the *fruits de la Lorraine* on the menu here before, and it may indeed be a new creation, though I was so overcome by it that when the delicious Mr Marc swanned off, I was going to go to the kitchen to ask him, "Summarize, and bubbling gently in a lovely fruity liquid, the strawberries (also manifestly fresh-picked) had a surprise: half an inch below the heat, there was a bed of ice cream, and when I struck it, it felt like one who has drilled for oil and found it in quantities beyond the dream of Rockefeller. The wine lasted: is there anything you can't drink Alsatian wine with?"

I thought it best to have only a light breakfast before the day's work, a tall, dark man, looking somewhat like Mr Robert Maxwell, passed by. The wine waiter, who had been directed to the subject of the bottle, for instance, to a letter in a day or two from my professional friend, or who—this I find more interesting and significant—declare that they cannot themselves afford such experiences, but are always pleased to read about mine: in this attitude they are identical, even down to the phraseology, to those correspondents who write to say that they cannot get to Covent Garden, or Salisbury, but take much vicarious pleasure in the stimulation of their own music-loving when I write about some absorbing operatic evening I have spent.

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exceptionally attentive. I knew something into was about to happen: when I saw that the accompanying my aperçus—just that minute to the fact of the misplaced, for there is one of the most remarkable I have had for long time.

I began with *saum papillote*, steamed in its with tiny shrimps and a cut julienne of vegetable. Michel Guérard himself, have been proud of. Th of scented steam that when the pillow was; gave a promise that w halied by the delicacy fish and its accompaniment. Unasked, they followed time: lemon, sorbet, d with *marc de Bois* which stunned the palate perfectly-judged five m leaving it at the end t time cleared, and flangi the next dish, which wa *foie de laide de cana* *gras*. What she wanted, drunk yet more Rieslin the fish. I decided on m red wine of the trip: to I had drunk white in the kitchen at Freiburg, but began to discuss the manageress, with i champagne and fact, steet was a wine of which never so much as heu name: Kaefferkopf. (Th a mountain in Alsace o name, and doubtless the grow upon its slopes. B duck-liver and the rasp were exquisitely set off powerful, body and hi sweetness.

It was by no means a meal of triumph, but I imagined the trumpets, I I don't think so) prece coup-de-potage of desserts: only to that of Alain Chs Minnony. Unfortunately then (which was) after cheese, of course) I could agree. What she wanted, raspberries and citrus, th flowing on perfectly fro liver, and some more *de bois*, this time in page syrup. The Kaeff carried on splendidly.

I made straight for whence I was flying. I can say very much, but I didn't have time: the shameful truth—boy will laugh at me!—no I had the appetite, either, having had two such me thought the least I cou was to tell you about th hope I have not upset Cl nher. I hope I have pl the Professor. No doub three in their respective will let me know.

© Times Newspapers Limited

"Let's not confuse ostentation," I said, "with style."

There was little danger of that, I reflected, as I looked again at the pocket watch she handed back to me.

The symmetry of the sixty diamonds encircling the intricately hand-carved movement, punctuating each minute with a sparkle of pure light. The miniature wheels within the transparent case, moving the hands in perfect motion. A delicate evolution of function into decoration.

"But what a shame," she remarked, as I slipped it into my pocket, "to have to keep something so beautiful hidden away."

Perhaps she has yet to discover that pleasure in ownership can come as much from private contemplation as public display.

Audemars Piguet

Illustrated brochure and list of appointed jewellers. Is available from Audemars Piguet, 71 Saffron Hill, London EC3N 8RS.

Mr Adams and the Penguin hitch

Something highly suspicious is going on at Penguin Books, where senior executives have suddenly and inexplicably cancelled the planned publication next week of what would have been their major new hardback novel of the year.

Richard Adams, who made such a commercial success of *Watership Down*, *Shardis* and *The Plague Dogs*, that he has had to take refuge from the taxman in the Isle of Man, has had the launch of his fourth novel, *The Girl in a Swing*, postponed by the same minute. Copies are already in the bookshops and should have gone on sale next Thursday under Penguin's Allen Lane imprint, but they will not be available until the autumn.

Peter Carson, a senior executive of Penguin, resolutely refused to be drawn yesterday, except to say that publication had been suspended. "I am technical reasons," a phrase of uncompromising blandness. The decision cannot have been taken lightly; with an initial print order of nearly 60,000 copies, priced at £5.95, most of them already on their way to the trade, the already troubled publishing house stands to lose many thousands of pounds.

A new Adams novel would

have been one of Allen Lane's major publishing events of the year. May would have been a good time for a launch, with only a trickle of new titles coming on to the market; in the autumn, when the Christmas season is in full swing, it is its chance in the flood of books trying to capture the Christmas market.

Although the publishers were being excessively coy, and Adams had curiously absented himself from his Manx home, the suspicion in publishing circles is that the book may face a possible action for libel.

Latest nudes

Few stones are left unturned, few alleyways left unexplored, by the Eurocrats of Brussels in their relentless pursuit of standardization in every aspect of life in the Community. The latest issue of a regular bulletin published by the European Movement in London, and intended to give the public ideas for writing letters to their local papers, brings us up to date on the latest Brussels proposals for nudism.

The Commission, it says, has submitted proposals for a directive which would lay down acceptable standards for nude bathing throughout Europe, a necessary step to prevent discrimination against nudists. Certain beaches should be designated as exclusively for the use of nudists. During the past few months experts have been charting



possible sites, using as their criteria least wind, fewest jellyfish and maximum isolation to discourage voyeurs. Distance from monasteries and convents has also been a determining factor. All many of the suitable beaches, are in remote areas, the Commission suggests that Regional Fund money could be made available to improve access, build new hotels, and

promote the facilities through local tourist boards. Grants could also be made for erecting signs and building screens against prying eyes while the Social Fund could make money available for the training of lifeguards in the particularly gentle techniques needed to save drowning nudists.

If you are absorbing these facts with a growing sense of unease, nay scepticism, you are on the right track. Ernest Wisniewski, director of the European Movement, admitted to me that the whole thing was a hoax, a rare Euro-joke from the usually straight-faced corridors of Brussels. Local newspaper editors please note.

Battle has been joined in earnest over the London Embassy siege. Following my revelation that The Observer is to produce an instant book of the drama in three weeks. The Sunday Times reveals that it intends to have one out next week. Can the film of the book of the drama be far behind?

Carriage paid It looks as though there will be a happy ending to the recent sad story about the proposed withdrawal of buffet cars from Hastings line trains. British Rail has now agreed to keep the buffet service going until the beginning of July, by when it hopes to have reached agreement with firms

prepared to pay for the refurbishment of the coaches in return for getting free advertising on the outside of the train. Apparently there is no shortage of advertisers anxious to have their products trumpeted all the way from Charing Cross to the Sussex coast via Tunbridge Wells and Battle. Philip Pigeon, secretary of the Save Our Buffet campaign, who has been instrumental in securing the advertising, says: "Obviously it would be tasteless to have clients' names on them. But there may be something on the roofs of the buffet cars. They go under a great many bridges after all."

Overdue credit Some Labour MPs serving on the standing committee examining the Social Security (No 2) Bill have been venting their impatience on the poor unsuspecting Hansard reporters, those impeccable shorthand writers of remarkable stamina who faithfully record the Members' words for an hour of the day or night.

What upset the ungrateful MPs was that printed transcripts of the previous day's sittings were not available the following day; they had to make do with the raw copy which goes from the reporter to the printer. Not good enough, they complained to the Hansard writers, not realising

that it was no fault of reporters, but of a dispute the Government printing works. So, the Hansard writers, who are the most efficient of all, have been asked to produce a copy of the Hansard for each day of the session. The Hansard writers, who are the most efficient of all, have been asked to produce a copy of the Hansard for each day of the session.

It is acceptable, she that in 1980 employees are expected to work a 10-hour day, and I often a 16, 18 or 20-hour day. Stafford and Patrick Jb the social services secretar charge of the Bill, has a bit of a problem. He has praised the reporters' work. Next day the Hansard porters, were able to a Jenkins as saying: "We I Committee what an Engr debt we owe to them, par largely because of the fact we have here. This afternoon report of what was taking o in the Committee when rose shortly before 8 o'clock this morning."

If I may put it in the nuclear, it is nothing less a bloody miracle. Journal honour has been satisfied.

Alan Hamill



is a week for trying to parch

Confidence lost

MR. MURRAY'S OFF DAY

Deaths in police custody

Blackmail threat

Dangerous trend

From Professor H. F. Lydall
Sir, It is understandable that

Civil Service pay

being unwilling to a
ment in hard decisi

Stalled land purchases

British Steel's chairman

From Lord Caccia.

Middle East settlement

Health service change

£120 million; whereas the second

the Muslim world which is quite out of proportion to the little or nothing

United States companies were pre-

From Mr M. Dragoumis

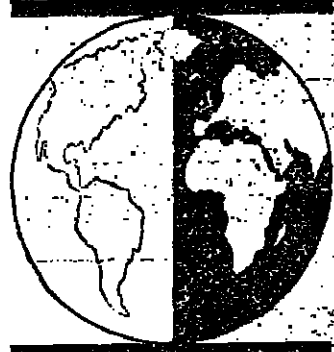
From Mr C. Kerrison
Sir, It now appears that not only

Corporal punishment

Mr Hills (May 10) has left out the last two lines of the Pease cottage

rhyme which are:
If you can spell that without a P
My best scholar you will be!
I could not understand this until
I was about four. I wonder if any
of your readers solved the problem
earlier.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN ARKELL,
Pinnocks,
Fawley Bottom,
Henley-on-Thames,
Oxfordshire.
May 11.



EEC energy chiefs agree to cut oil consumption

The energy ministers of the European Community yesterday agreed that the share of oil in gross EEC energy consumption should be cut to around 40 per cent by 1990.

They also agreed to cut back the use of oil in electricity generating so that nuclear energy or solid fuel should account for between 70 and 75 per cent of the primary energy needed for electricity production.

But one of the more pressing issues in energy policy—that of an EEC approach to next week's meeting of ministers from member countries of the International Energy Agency (IEA) in Paris—was handled informally today so as not to offend France which has refused to join the IEA.

Mr David Howell, the secretary of state for energy, said that any shortfall caused by a stoppage of oil supplies from Iran could be absorbed by the EEC in the short term.

Nordic cooperation

Sweden, Finland and Norway should start planning future energy cooperation for their Nordic regions, based on oil and gas finds off the coast of North Norway, Mr Odvar Nordli, Prime Minister of Norway, told a press conference after a two day closed meeting of prime ministers of the five Nordic countries.

Uranium agreement

France and Argentina have agreed on a \$200 (£87.5m) uranium development programme. Pechiney Ugine Kuhlmann SA (PUK), a French aluminium, minerals and steel group, will help Argentina produce 700 tons of refined uranium ore annually for its nuclear power plants.

OECD prices slowdown

The growth of consumer prices in member countries of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development slowed to 1.1 per cent in March from 1.2 per cent in February and 1.5 per cent in January, the OECD said yesterday.

Ousting of President Binaisa puts UK's growing £19m market at risk

Return of uncertainty in Uganda

British exporters sold £18.9m of goods to Uganda last year, and expect that this week's reported overthrow of President Binaisa will hinder the development of the country into a major trader.

Uganda is by no means a large market for British business, but trade officials believe that it has the potential to become as important an African nation as Kenya.

When President Amin was defeated in last year's war against Tanzanian-led troops, he left behind little foreign exchange with which the country could recover from an expensive military conflict.

Consequently, British trade did not improve dramatically after the departure of Amin, whose anti-British feelings led to the cutting of diplomatic relations between the two countries and a drastic drop in British exports.

A large part of the trade which has taken place since his downfall has been financed by overseas aid. In the current financial year, Britain is committed to £5m in aid, £4m tied to the purchase of British goods.

Priority areas within this group are the purchase of vehicles, road reconstruction and the building of a new airport. The £1m is to be spent on technical cooperation involving consultancy work by

Britons in Uganda and the training of Ugandans in the United Kingdom. Last year, Britain donated £2m as immediate reconstruction aid after the end of the war.

In February, BL signed a contract to supply £10.7m of trucks, buses and Land Rovers to the Ugandan Government. Most of the contract has been completed, but the company fears that further instability in the country will mar trade in a market which it believed was open to further business.

Trade officials do not expect the reported overthrow of President Binaisa to affect the plans of two Asian family groups, Madhavani and Mehta, to retake possession of sugar and tea estates and steel mills which they had operated until 1972 when President Amin expelled the Ugandan Asians.

No agreement has yet been reached over the question of the ownership of the companies' £100m assets or compensation for their seizure. Transport equipment and machinery accounted for a large part of last year's British exports to the country, followed by medical supplies, food, and chemicals.

No great strides forward were expected in the exports field until Uganda

managed to gain further foreign aid agreements and some form of financing from the World Bank or the International Monetary Fund.

But further political infighting will only serve to increase the dismay of trade officials who have been concerned about the lack of broad economic planning from Kampala in the past. In the long term, Uganda can only fulfil its hopes of becoming a prosperous African state, for which it has the potential, by rebuilding the five most important Ugandan products—cotton, tea, tobacco, coffee, and to a lesser extent copper.

The government which came in after Amin failed to make much headway in tackling these problems, according to exporters to the country. Until they are resolved, Uganda will remain a desperately short of foreign exchange and reliant on foreign aid to fulfil its most basic development needs.

A change of government, even by force, is unlikely to change the need for foreign aid and its consequent benefits for British industry, but this week's events put back further the day when Kampala returns to a semblance of business normality.

David Hewson

Merger will create £40m Co-op

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

A proposed merger of two co-operative retail societies in the industrial Midlands is expected soon to create a West Midlands Co-op with a £40m-a-year turnover.

Another merger this week has seen the creation of an East Mercia society with a £20m turnover in nearby Nuneaton and Hinckley.

The West Midlands grouping—which will be one of the bigger mergers of recent years—is an important step towards a sharp reduction in the number of retail societies, still numbering almost 200.

The question of fewer and larger societies will form a major debate at the Co-operative Congress in the Isle of Man later this month.

The proposed West Midlands merger involves the Walsall and Kidderminster societies. The Walsall society, which includes Wolverhampton, is much the larger, with a turnover last year of some £32m. One of the advantages of the merger will be the increased scope for Walsall's greater expertise in store development.

This week's merger of the Hinckley and Barwell societies and the Nuneaton and Atherton societies has involved the amalgamation of the boards. Mr Hugh Todner, who was chief executive of the Nuneaton society, is the secretary and chief official of the merged East Mercia society.

MPs urged to ignore 'myths' on reactors

By John Huxley

A big effort to restrain design teams, and create back-up facilities would be needed if Britain finally chose the American-designed pressurised water reactor (PWR) for its future power station programme, according to a submission to the parliamentary select committee on energy.

MPs were urged not to be misled by the myth that the advanced gas-cooled reactor (AGR) was a "disaster of Concorde-like proportions".

Mr Donald MacDonald, chairman of NEI which made the submission, said that Britain had made an enormous investment in the technology needed for AGRs, NEI preferred the AGR system, in which it had long experience, for the sake of continuity and because of the cost and risks associated with disturbance and change.

In other respects there was little to choose between the two systems. "It has never been our view that there was a clear technical or economic advantage for either system," the submission said. "Both can be engineered to the satisfaction of the operator and to the safety requirement of the licensing authority."

"Once that has been done the difference in total costs is probably less than the base of uncertainty in predicting it."

Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Energy, intends to order a PWR in two years. He has already decided to go ahead with construction of two



Mr David MacDonald: Little to choose between systems.

AGRs at Torness and Heysham. Mr MacDonald, however, told MPs that certain "myths" about the relative merits of the AGR and PWR had to be dispelled. In particular, it was wrong to assume that the PWR was factory-built and was, therefore, easier to assemble on site.

Cost overruns of the sort encountered on AGR construction sites could also occur when the PWR is built.

NEI denied that the AGR had proved a "Concorde-like disaster". It said that careful analysis of Hunterston B and Hinkley B, whose design was to be repeated on the two new sites, showed them to be running successfully and economically.

Engineering links sought by Indian delegation

By Edward Townsend

A major new initiative to stimulate two-way trade between the United Kingdom and India began this week with a visit to London by a top level delegation of Indian engineering industry leaders.

There are hopes that trade between the United Kingdom and India—now running 50 per cent higher than a year ago—can be increased and that Indian industry can attract more British firms to collaborate in joint ventures, particularly in other countries.

This week's mission is being sponsored jointly by the Confederation of British Industry and the British and South Asian Trade Association (BASATA) and is led by Mr Manmohan Singh, president of the Association of Indian Engineering Industries.

Although trade is increasing, Indian industry is considered to be Britain's traditionally strong links with the country are weakening.

Mr Singh stressed that British engineering companies' share in India's international collaboration deals had declined from 46 per cent in 1957 to 25 per cent last year. Joint ventures with Japanese and German companies, however, had been rising steadily.

"Britain is good at high technology and at international business while we have a core of skilled workers and are close to the markets that we consider important," Mr Singh said.

India had been progressively lifting import restrictions in a bid to boost its economy. "The old impressions do not apply any more. We are now demonstrating what the new India has to offer and to encourage British and Indian industry to join hands."

In recent years British industry has won some major contracts in India in the fertilizer, power and aerospace fields. Total United Kingdom exports to India last year were worth £456m—an increase of £107m on 1978, while Indian exports to the United Kingdom rose by £31m to £360m.

Current joint British-Indian ventures consisted principally of British process expertise, supported by detailed engineering, erection and construction, and supply of some plant and equipment from India.

"Prime contractors from Europe, America and Japan are already placing a good number of contracts with Indian companies. There have been power transmission projects in Nigeria, a fertilizer project in Bangladesh, a housing complex in Kuwait and a petrochemical project in Abu Dhabi."

"These are the kind of joint ventures which we want to see more of."

EEC 'needs improved energy plan'

Dr Karlheinz Bund, chairman of the West German Ruhrkohle, said that the European Community must develop and implement an energy strategy which would exploit the full potential of its indigenous resources.

He addressed the Coal and Energy conference in London on Tuesday that the community has been largely unsuccessful in achieving the energy targets set in the 1973 energy plan in response to the 1973 energy crisis incorporating coal, oil and nuclear fuel which laid the foundations for a policy until 1985.

Achieving these goals proved difficult. Dr Bund said that political pressure or lack of investment had prevented expansion in nuclear power. Only about 40 per cent of the expected nuclear power levels were achieved.

But coal import targets, predicted to reach 60 million tonnes by 1985, have been achieved already.

Dr Bund argued that the West German example could be used for establishing a coal policy which would sustain growth in the industry without restricting imports unnecessarily.

The Germans are implementing a 15-year contract drawn up between the country, 40 utility and mining companies.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Disappointment of scrap industry over export awards

From the President, the British Scrap Federation

Sir, Regarding the Queen's Award for Exports, if our experience is anything to go by, it is not surprising that there were fewer applicants for export awards this year than in 1979—a drop of nearly a third to the lowest total since the 692 who applied in 1974. This would seem to indicate that a great many concerns have decided that the rules applied by the Award Selection Committee in the award-giving process are biased in favour of white-collar technology as against blue-collar technology.

Some of our member companies have been applying for four or five years; we were told they would have to be patient. For our part, we made it clear that we would regard an award to any member as being commendation for the great effort being made by the whole industry and that it would give great pleasure to all the people who work in the ferrous scrap industry.

In 1974 we exported 311,000 tonnes of ferrous scrap worth approximately £10m. Since then, while maintaining a crucial home market with the iron and steel making industries, we have worked steadily on building up an export trade which is

now running at levels well beyond anything we have achieved in the past.

In 1979 the overseas earnings by the scrap industry was a record £75m on an export figure of 1,347 million tonnes. This year we are confident we will substantially improve on this and expect the total tonnage of our exports to pass the two million mark. In March this year we exported approximately the same tonnage as during the whole of 1974. This export achievement by the industry is reflected in the performance figures of those individual companies who have applied unsuccessfully for an award.

The companies within the scrap industry which spearhead this drive for exports face extremely sharp competition in difficult overseas markets. Their efforts are backed by many thousands of smaller companies who collect iron and steel scrap from every quarter. In so doing they not only provide the British steel industry with a valuable indigenous raw material but contribute greatly to the environment by removing unsightly material from our towns and countryside.

On the technological front, the British scrap industry has developed the last decade beyond all recognition. Technological innovation is

nothing new to our

and the research and development of new processes frequently carried out by our own members. Our status efficiency in reclaiming improved continually, enormous benefits to the national economy. The saving achieved by the industry is tremendous. In expressing our disappointment, I believe we are echoed by leaders of other industries in this. The result may well be fall in applicants for the Queen's Award for Export and certainly our are beginning to wonder if it is worthwhile.

It may be that what is required is a change of mind as far as awards are specifically to companies. Why should an industry be awarded, if it is within that industry, in one way or to the success of at drive? Yours faithfully, A. P. BIRD, President, British Scrap Federation, 16 High Street, Birmingham, B1 1JG, Cambridgeshire, PG18 1 May 12.

Industrial and academic cooperation

From Mr D. B. Welbourn

Sir, Had Sir George Pickering (May 9) been Master of a Cambridge college he would have known that many of the best undergraduate brains in the universities are to be found in their engineering departments, and that the relationship between our scientific and engineering departments and industry is not as distant as one as he seems to imagine. Recently, while lunching in a world famous American company for whom I was consulting, his vice-president commented to me that he wished that the American universities took as much interest in industry as did the British ones!

A couple of years ago one of the largest German companies invited me to spend a day discussing with some of its managers the question "The British industrial disease—can Germany catch it?" We agreed that it could; and the principal reason for this agreement was that Germany is starting to follow us down the slippery educational slide whereby it is possible in Britain, and indeed usual, for undergraduates in the arts faculties to have got to the university without having done mathematics as a school leaving examination. As a result, the products of our arts faculties are not merely innumerate but have no concept of the precise definition of rates of change, so important in modern science.

Another fundamental question that is rarely mentioned is the difference in attitude to financing industry. The government in Britain is rightly lambasted for over-oxidation and interference; but much more damaging is the effect of the Stock Exchange chasing quick returns instead of taking a long-term view of the health of companies. Here the stability given to German industry by its banks, I know nothing about the development of the EMI scanner; but I do know

that to undertake a development of this sort demands not merely the technical ability but the financial nerve to take decisions which will only be reflected in a healthy balance sheet after many years. The immediate result of investing in a major long-term development project is to make a company look as though it were ripe for takeover.

Sir, I write from a university which has been providing consultants for industry since at least 1608. I and my colleagues know that the major problems of cooperation between industry and the academic world in this country lie not in the engineering and scientific interface but in the problems facing the entrepreneurial firm financially.

Finally, may I contribute to another correspondence? Small companies pay my invoices promptly, large ones do so but rarely!

D. B. WELBOURN, Director in Industrial Cooperation, Wolfson Cambridge Industrial Unit, University of Cambridge, 20, Trumpington Street, Cambridge CB2 1QA.

A home for pension fund money

From Dr D. A. Alderson

Sir, If pension funds have so much money that they are finding difficulty in investing it and if there is a shortage of money for house purchase, there seems to be a simple answer to both problems. It would be a pleasure to know that one's mortgage payments were contributing to one's pension.

Yours faithfully, D. A. ALDERSON, Farthings, Cotswold, Stone, Staffordshire ST15 5TA.

Size of building societies' advances

From Mr J. B. Hodge

Sir, It is strange the conclusions that some people draw from a particular set of facts.

Why does Margaret Stone (April 30) draw the conclusion that solicitors receive preferential treatment from building societies simply because the figures show that they receive average advances of £23,000 compared with doctors and dentists who receive £16,000?

Could the explanation not be that dentists and doctors only ask for £16,000 because their need to borrow is not so great as that of solicitors (I assume that solicitors require more capital to run their businesses than do doctors and dentists)?

In order to find out if solicitors did receive preferential treatment one would need to know the relationship between the advance sought and the advance granted in the case of solicitors on the one hand and

in the case of doctors and

Even if building societies wish to give special treatment to solicitors I cannot think they would do it in the absence of their own advances 50 per cent greater than advanced to doctors.

Yours faithfully, J. B. HODGE, 190 Fleet Street, London EC4A 3JX.

This year was Comben's 75th anniversary as a major housebuilding company—

* Profits before tax passed £5m. for the first time and earnings per share were a record 12.3p.

* With sales success in Portugal and further new sites in the Paris region; the overseas division contributed a profit of £336,000.

* The Group is in a strong land bank position for several years ahead.

COMBEN HOMES

	Year to 31/12/79	9 months to 31/12/78
Turnover	£'000	£'000
Profit before taxation	£'000	£'000
Earnings per share	12.3p	6.07p
Dividend per share	2.55p	1.70p

Copies of the Report and Accounts are available from The Secretary, Comben Group Ltd., 1 Portland Square, Bristol, BS2 8PR.

The Waterford Glass Success Story

Group profits have risen without interruption in the past 25 years from IR£7,665 to IR£11,636,000. During the same period the number of people employed in the Group has risen from 400 to 6,984.

Those who invested in the Company's Ordinary Shares when they were floated in 1966 would now hold shares worth over six times their original cost. Since 1966 they would also have received IR£158 in Net Dividends for every IR£100 invested.

And our products have given pleasure to thousands of people all over the world.

Waterford Glass is now by far the largest manufacturer of high quality crystal in the world. It has also diversified successfully into fine bone china, quality printing,

retailing and motor distribution. The first stage of a major new factory for crystal lighting ware is now in production.

The latest chapter

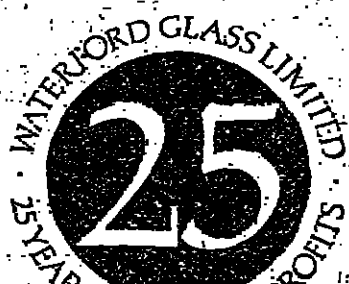
Turnover in 1979 up 16.1% Fully diluted earnings per share up 14.6% Ordinary Dividend up 25.9%

The next chapter

"I am very confident of further increases in sales and profits for the Group as a whole during the coming year."

—Chairman, Mr. Patrick McGrath.

Copies of the latest Accounts of the Company can be obtained from the Secretary, Waterford Glass Limited, Killybeg, Waterford, Ireland.



BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Weathering the indicators

Saudi Arabian decision to raise oil prices by \$2 a barrel gave sterling a lift in exchange markets yesterday, pushing it towards the \$2.30 level once again. Whether or not it is likely to test the level remains to be seen. On the one hand, it is still too early to say whether the pound will slide in United States dollar rates will prove sufficient to stabilize the United States currency.

On the other, the petrocurrency and high oil prices are likely to help the pound, but less clear-cut so long as we continue to get figures like yesterday's average figures for March—showing an annual rise of over 20 per cent.

The figures did nothing to help the pound, though most of the fall did in fact ahead of them. Demand simply didn't after a steady enough opening that saw government broker supply the new 1992 in small amounts at £20.1 and £20.3/16, day brings the full April money supply, with the prospect of an acceptable high sterling M3 rise but a horrific banking increase. Friday brings the April figures and an April RPI figure generally expected to be almost 21 per cent up year ago.

its Patons

urrency uations

Patons' relatively cheering results and rise of better to come in 1980 provided a modest uprating of the shares, which have since risen 54p to 49p. They look cheap on earnings grounds: the ratio on Coats—a nearly full tax cut—is only 4.1. But it would be hard to yield much less than the current 5 per cent after the 5 per cent increase in gross profit.

Patons does not have problems on the scale of Coats' exposure to the United States textiles industry, for example, and there was only a \$8.5m cash outflow in 1979 leaving gearing unchanged at 1.6 and in 1980 Coats expects some recovery in United Kingdom and higher trading abroad.

It is hard to see the group making more than £65m. And, as always, there is a major uncertainty. Fluctuations in sterling, exceptional devaluations in the United States and the expected falls in currencies.

Patons' dividends, says Coats, will have to be covered by CCA earnings. In 1979 they were less than a third covered even after a 10 per cent adjustment to compensate for Coats' reckoning is an absurdly high provision. In 1980 Coats intends to provide a more realistic depreciation under CCA but scope for dividend looks slim.

roposites nderwriting ospects

Quarter results from Royal Insurance profits almost doubled to £25.5m pre- and follow Tuesday's announcement of Commercial Union of a less notable 10 per cent improvement to £26.3m.

In each case, however, the outcome is better in comparison with an awful storm-tossed first quarter last time and thus is out only false promise for the year ahead.

Helped by better weather and the effects of petrol shortages on motor claims, Royal Insurance underwriting losses to £7.8m with the operating ratio up to 105.2. But like CU which cut United States loss from £7.4m to £6.8m, the operating ratio down almost 10 points to 103.7 per cent, Royal is still tending towards fast deteriorating conditions in the Atlantic.

With competition still raging fiercely it is hard to project Royal's United States underwriting deficit this year spiralling in £8.2m to nearer £30m despite its selective approach.

Meanwhile, a more expensive CU could the deficit leaping to £40m from around £1m, assuming of course that 1980 passes without climatic catastrophes.

Helped by a swing into profit in the

United Kingdom despite a £2.5m payout on the British Aerospace blaze (lead underwriter CU forked up £2m) Royal cut its underwriting deficit outside the United States from £12.1m to £3.7m but the group still faces big problems in markets like Canada and Australia.

Without such a deep cushion this time from investment income gains, partly as a result of exchange movements both Royal and CU could see profits falling to around £125m for the full year against previous totals of £131.5m and £137.6m previously.

Of the two groups Royal, which seems to be letting more business go by than CU in current conditions, looks the sounder investment. But in neither case has the time come yet for buying on hopes of a 1981 underwriting recovery.

JFB Into the recession

It has been a hard slog but Johnson & Firth Brown has emerged at the half-year stage with profits more or less intact. On a strictly comparable basis the shortfall is around £0.3m at £4.04m, that after strike costs of £3m associated with the tail-end of the engineers' stoppage and, more recently, the British Steel shutdown.

The point however is how well JFB will be able to trade from now on as the engineering recession gathers pace. With gearing still up at around 70 per cent (interest charges in the first half rose from £2.5m to £4.7m) its capacity to take punishment is not unlimited.

Fortunately, while general demand for special steels is awful, JFB's position as a supplier to the aerospace sector—which should remain buoyant through this recession—is a strong mitigating factor. So, too, is higher efficiency, notably after the installation of a new forge which is now operating two shifts. Meanwhile, disposals and closures including that of a copper rod mill, and the fact that it is over its capital spending hump are obviously helping to ease a difficult working capital position.

There is sufficient confidence around, then, for JFB to have maintained the interim dividend; if it paid the same 7.1p a share gross as it did last time the shares at 40p would yield 17.1 per cent, an implied return that reflects the risk, especially as any payment would be hopelessly short-earned under a current cost adjustment.

Woolworth A poor start

Trying to keep up with the Marks & Spencers of this world has done no good at all for Woolworth. Its first quarter results reflect the failure of its attempts to move into higher quality markets, and provide continuing evidence that nothing much is really changing.

Eventually something may happen to revitalize or enhance in some way the assets of the company. But any decision will have to be taken by the American parent which has firm control of the majority of the shares.

Pre-tax profits for the three months to the end of April are down from £7.5m in the comparable period of last year to £2.8m. The bland statement from the board says simply that the volume of business has not been high enough to offset inflation. Sales are only marginally up from £200m to £218m, including VAT; sales have included a higher proportion of high profit margins items.

What is worse is that these results compare with quite good figures from Marks & Spencer, and British Home Stores, both of which also faced higher wage and other costs. So at the onset of a recession it is difficult to see what the rest of the year and 1981 could be like.

The pressure of interest charges which were up from £1.47m to £2.62m could ease off later in the year. But when the recession starts to bite consumers might prefer lower margin goods. Much will as ever depend how successfully Woolworth can adjust its sales mix. Meanwhile, the share price of 58p is only underpinned by the view that Woolworth will hold the dividend almost come what may, thus sustaining a yield of 12 per cent.

Economic notebook

No way to plan public spending

Bit by bit the system of planning government spending for several years ahead is being eroded. The Government's recent decision to lop a year off its next spending review is more important than the low key and almost unnoticed announcement last week would suggest. It institutionalizes a shorter term view of spending plans. The Government will now have to look only three years into the future, rather than four, when taking its spending decisions.

Whatever ministers may say, and despite what they may intend, the almost inevitable casualty of a shorter planning horizon is government investment. It is this which has to be planned well ahead. Time and again it has been shown that when governments want to trim their spending plans capital programmes are the easiest to chop, and the first and biggest victims of the axe.

This pattern is, generally, deplored by those outside the Government. When the present Government was in opposition its members proclaimed the wisdom of balanced cuts in public spending, with current spending on goods and services (including Civil Service jobs) being cut, as well as capital spending.

But since taking office they have done as every other government. It is simply very difficult to reduce spending on such things as teachers, school books, medicines, civil servants. These spending cuts have a clear impact on the quality of public services, which is, to say the least, politically unattractive.

Total employment in the Civil Service has proved very hard to cut—even for this government. It is doubtful whether Tuesday's announced job losses will turn out to be as large as they sound now. Cutting the plans for a new road or hospital is, by contrast, relatively painless.

To some extent, of course, the Government's decision last week, merely sets the seal on what was happening anyway. Frequent changes of policy within and between governments over the past few years have meant that the plans shown in the past year of each spending review have been drastically changed by the time a year has arrived.

However, this is not just true of the past year in the plan, but also of earlier years. It is true that the Government is not yet ready to throw all its planning out of the window, although it has made it clear that for next year as well as for later on in the Parliament, its money targets and spending over-averaging commitments.

Variations

This underlies a real break with the past by the present ministerial team at the Treasury. For if the money targets, as laid down in the medium term financial strategy, are sacrosanct, and tax cuts to be avoided at almost all costs then naturally public spending ends up as the residual.

The Government appears to believe that it should resist cyclical variations in its borrowing. Thus, if growth is slower than allowed for, leading to lower tax receipts and higher spending on social security, spending plans will be cut.

The Government's main justification for shortening the period to be covered by its next spending White Paper is that there is so much uncertainty about the future that it is better to make plans for later years spurious and pointless. This is broadly the same reason as that given for the lack of detail about the spending programmes for the later years of the last White Paper.

But the reasons for uncertainty in each case are very different. First, it is chiefly because output, employment and, to some extent, inflation are harder to forecast the further ahead you look.

Moreover, the Government does not trust the forecasts that it has, and says that it does not believe that it can do anything to influence those variables beyond setting and sticking to its money supply targets. It could still be argued that the Government can and should plan its spending, notwithstanding the uncertainty about the economic climate. This is especially true of capital programmes.

In the second case, however, the uncertainty is almost entirely because the Government chooses not to take decisions about the allocation of spending in years ahead, when it perfectly well could take those decisions. Ministers have made much of the need to give local authorities discretion in their spending. But if the central government is to set the overall level of public spending—as the Government claims to be doing—then the discretion for local authorities is more apparent than real.

Housing

Housing is one of the two main areas where, on present plans, the Government intends to cut spending between now and 1983/84. It has yet to decide whether to cut capital spending on house building, or current spending on subsidies; but it will not leave that decision to local authorities. In theory the local authorities could decide to raise rates rather than rents, if the central government goes for cuts in subsidies. But if they do that, then the overall level of public spending will be higher than planned by the Government.

It is hard to avoid the conclusion that ministers have deferred many spending decisions because they are difficult and contentious rather than because they cannot sensibly be taken now.

The Treasury and Civil Service committee report of two weeks ago rightly drew attention to the difficulty in assessing the last spending White Paper, because of its lack of detail.

The reductions assumed in housing, for example, would be roughly equivalent, in the words of the committee, to "the virtual ending of capital expenditure on housing or the total elimination of subsidies". If such a drastic change in policy is to take place it surely makes sense to plan well in advance rather than to leave an awful moment of decision to the last.

Nationalized industry borrowing is the other main source of cuts. Here the turn round in state industry finances, which is expected in the White Paper, is of almost incredible proportions, and would certainly involve very sharp rises in nationalized industry prices. Again there seems little excuse for delay in spelling out how the cuts are expected to be achieved.

Medium-term planning of public spending was supposed to ensure that governments had well thought out, consistent and coherent spending policies which were to some extent insulated from the vagaries of short-term changes.

The publication of a table, showing the economic category of different kinds of public spending, enabled those outside the Government to judge the economic effect of its spending measures. Raising charges, for example, has a very different impact from cutting house building. At the moment not even the Government knows what will be the economic effect of its spending plans after this year; it has not yet taken the necessary decisions.

It is strange that the first government to have produced medium-term projections of its expected spending, borrowing and money creation is also accelerating the tendency to make short-term ad hoc decisions about how best to spend public money.

Caroline Atkinson



Two styles of drinking: can his tipple really be compared with hers?

Differences hard to settle over a glass of beer

David Hewson

Beer has been monopolized, rationalized and homogenized; soon it may be harmonized, too.

Earlier this year the European Court of Justice was asked to give judgment on an alleged breach of Article 95 of the Treaty of Rome. The European Commission—backed by the Italian Government—alleged that the British were giving preferential tax treatment to home-produced alcoholic drinks (beer) as against similar or competing drinks (wine) from other member states.

In an interlocutory judgment the court gave the parties until December to resolve their differences. But the chances of a compromise are slim and it seems likely that the supposed feather-bedding of the British beer drinker will become as hazy a Brussels annual as the subsidizing of the French farmer.

The simplistic view is, that equalizing rates of duty could result in one of two solutions. Wine could be reduced in price by about 20p a bottle to bring it into line with the duty charged on beer. Or beer could rise by 5p a pint to bring it into line with wine. Cynical drinkers are probably in no doubt over which step the Government would choose.

The British drinks industry, which is normally vociferous on the subject of excise duty, has remained strangely quiet when it comes to this issue. It might seem attractive to wine traders to press for any solution which could result in a fall in the price paid by the customer for wine.

The fact that no one is doing so proves that all that may be expected is a further increase in what the customer pays in another sector of a market in which many of the wine sellers have interests.

Victoria Wines, for instance, might be impressed by the idea of a reduction in the price of wine, but the off-licence chain's owners, Allied Brewers, would be less impressed by an offsetting increase in the duty on its Double Diamond and other beers.

So it should come as no surprise that the beer giants' trade association, the Brewers' Society, does not commit itself over the issue, save for pointing

out that wine and beer in Britain just cannot be compared.

This is very much the stance of the Government in its fight against the Commission's case. It is conceded that on a strict assessment of the amount of duty charged against alcohol content Britain does slap a heavier rate on wines than on the traditional pint.

To Frenchmen, who last year exported to Britain wine worth £121.4m, such action may not seem particularly communitaire. The British answer is that it makes a nonsense of the Community's harmonization policy or attempt to compare products whose place in the nation's life differs widely from country to country. Nowhere in Europe is beer brewed or consumed as it is in Britain, simply because of that British institution, the pub.

As Mr. Colin Mitchell, of brokers Buckmaster & Moore, puts it: "In France there is a per capita consumption of 190 bottles of wine, while beer consumption is pretty negligible. One might suggest that the French harmonize themselves in consumption by drinking much less wine and much more beer."

Harmonization does not affect Britain alone. The Danes came under fire from Brussels because they charged a lower rate of duty for the traditional "akavit" than for imported spirits. It has also been claimed that the French have been giving preference to grain-based alcohol drinks. Ireland has run into trouble over some of its pricing policies.

The problem of harmonization is whether alcohol duty should be based upon traditional drinking habits or on the commission's desire to enforce free trade, regardless of other factors.

While the British attitude to wine may be changing—as is suggested by the growth of wine bars, many under the aegis of the big brewers—the bulk of wine sales are for home consumption. This is manifestly not the case abroad. It is right to say that British beer because it attracts a lower rate of duty than an alcoholic drink against which it is barely in competition?

These problems are unlikely to be resolved by the end of the year, and despite the unspoken threat contained in the Court of Justice's December deadline, they are unlikely to be resolved by formal adjudication in Brussels. The feeling within the British drinks industry is that such a move would provoke an undesirable level of feeling against the Community, which has not been receiving the best of press in recent times, anyway.

The threat of Community action may never materialize, but British brewers should not believe that they are immune from the effects of harmonization. There are indications that the Commission may be planning a move which could seriously affect many of the country's smaller brewers. At present, excise duty is levied on beer works, the liquid produced from the mash before fermentation has begun, and a statutory deduction of 6 per cent is made from the quantity produced to allow for subsequent wastage within the brewery.

The 6 per cent is probably generous, but its withdrawal would undoubtedly affect the smaller breweries with their shorter runs and higher than average wastage rates.

The Commission has been talking for some time about demanding a harmonization of tax which would change this levy to one charged upon the brewery's end product. The Customs and Excise earlier this month issued a consultative document which said that it intended to examine the duty basis for taxing beer and complete its investigation by this autumn.

Such a move is seen within the industry as a possible prelude to the institution of an "end-product duty". Buckmaster & Moore feel strongly enough on the subject to give warning that such a move could jeopardize the future of a number of the small breweries which have flourished during the real ale boom of the last few years.

This prediction might be considered alarmist, but the adoption of such a policy is not ruled out among the brewers. Harmonization, when it comes to the drinks industry, may not arrive through sweeping changes in excise duty, but by a series of small, individual measures. The drinkers of Britain will probably never notice, but the brewers certainly will.

Anglo American Investment Trust Limited

(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

Review by the Chairman, Mr. H. F. Oppenheimer

I refer members to my statement to the shareholders of De Beers Consolidated Mines Limited, in which the diamond industry and the progress of the De Beers group during 1979 are reviewed in detail. My comments therefore relate specifically to the results of your company.

Higher dividend payments by De Beers and by the diamond trading companies, in which Anamint has a substantial interest, have enabled the company's total dividend distribution for the period under review to be increased by 110 cents to 860 cents a share. The company's profit after tax for the year to March 31 1980 rose from R79,605 million to R91,008 million, representing an increase of 14 per cent. Included in this profit is the receipt of both the interim and the final De Beers dividends for 1979 totalling 72.5 cents a share, representing an increase of 11.5 per cent over the De Beers dividends of the

previous year. After deducting the preference dividend, Anamint's equity earnings for the year amounted to R90,708 million of 907 cents a share, representing an improvement of 114 cents a share over last year. The company sold its holding of 590,625 ordinary shares in Anglo American Industrial Corporation Limited, realising a surplus of R13,945 million, and therefrom utilised the proceeds to partly finance the acquisition of a further 2,280,711 De Beers deferred shares. The company now holds 27 per cent of the equity of De Beers.

Taking into account the market value of the company's listed investment and the directors' valuation of the unlisted investments, the company's net asset value at March 31 1980 was 10,436 cents compared with 9,148 cents at March 31 1979. This increase is due largely to the improvement in the price of De Beers shares on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange from 840 cents a share at March 31 1979 to 970 cents a share at March 31 1980.

FEATURES OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	1980	1979	1978
Equity capital and reserves	R000's	R000's	R000's
Listed investments	81 186	62 533	58 228
Book value	69 738	46 411	46 411
Market value	842 287	805 112	520 123
Unlisted investments			
Book value	11 634	11 636	11 636
Directors' valuation	101 526	105 249	92 343
Equity earnings	79 305	79 305	64 234
per share	907 cents	793 cents	643 cents
Dividends on ordinary shares	\$6 090	75 000	60 000
per share	860 cents	750 cents	600 cents
Number of ordinary shares in issue	10 000 000	10 000 000	10 000 000

The 44th annual general meeting of Anglo American Investment Trust Limited will be held on June 11, 1980. Copies of the Chairman's review together with the annual report and accounts, and the De Beers Chairman's statement are obtainable from the London office of the company at 40 Holborn Viaduct, EC1P 1AJ.

Ross Davies

Business Diary: Biggles revs up • Publishers' advances

Y institutions may soon be eyed by Adrian Scrope, looking for some money to put into a film of Commander James Bigglesworth, better-known to managers in their younger years as the legendary Biggles.

Adrian Scrope's Yellowbill Productions, as Business Diary reported, was set up four years to buy the Biggles rights.

Now Yellowbill has signed a production agreement with Robert Stigwood Organization and is negotiating with Disney on a deal whereby Disney may put up half production costs, estimated between \$15m and \$20m, and distribute the film world

Vivien James (right) is one of the publishers behind Business Week, which starts on Monday. This is a venture curious not only in that it has got ten publishers to agree on something, but also in that they have persuaded booksellers to sell the book. Business Week, which the publisher more often sells by post.

Mrs James, managing editor of Business Books, told me yesterday: "Booksellers are often reluctant to stock management books because the turnover on them is slow and they cost more. Booksellers always view with suspicion publishers who promote books through direct mail, because they feel that their business is being taken out of their hands, yet quite often we notice that when we send out promotional literature through the mail we notice sales go up in the shops."

The publishers behind next

week's sales drive, Mrs James said, also want to get more managers to go into bookshops not only to buy books on self but books which will help them to do their jobs better as well.

American managers, she says, are more conditioned to buying business books because, unlike the case in this country, most middle and top managers have been to business schools.

"The long-term prospects for business books as a genre are very good, but they have to be good, practical, back-to-basics books."

Mrs James and Business Books have two runners in next week's effort. Effective Speaking and Presentation and Managing Negotiations.

This last puts forth the 1979 dispute at The Times as a model of how a management should go about negotiating. I thought I would mention that in case Private Eye did.



Photograph by Charles Milligan



Juan Scrope

de, with Yellowbill finding a rest. Stigwood knows a thing or two about hit movies, having produced both Grease and Tuesday Night Fever, and a deal with Walt Disney would be a real coup as Disney have long before done a co-production.

If Disney agrees, after first seeing a rewrite of the screenplay, then Yellowbill's funds will be hedgehopping around City

Walter Goldsmith, the director-general of the Institute of Directors, is a leading exponent of management machismo, but none the less believes that he can drop his call to take unions to court, in view of the turnout during yesterday's Day of Action.

He says that the IOD's main objectives have been achieved without legal proceedings, in that union members who went to work need not fear reprisals and in any case the loss to industry is probably not great as feared.

Goldsmith went out on a limb a few weeks ago in urging members to sue unions for damages arising from lost pro-

duction. At that time he estimated that industry could lose up to £315m in output.

Goldsmith wrote to Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney-General, getting him to clarify the employers' legal position.

His behind-the-scenes meetings with the Newspaper Publishers Association helped to spur Victor Matthews and Express Newspapers to seek and gain a High Court injunction against the union unions.

Goldsmith's outspoken criticism of the unions' strategy, and the resulting publicity, worried some IOD council members. But all is well: it appears that the rank and file liked it and new subscribers are lining up to sign on.

I yield to none in my admiration for Northampton, and in particular, for the efforts of the development corporation to get employers and employed to move there from the pampered South-east.

None the less, I am amazed to learn that EMI is marketing commercially a pop record that originated as a jingle extolling Northampton's charms and used in advertisements on commercial radio and television.

They have some safe sales for pop records these days, but "Energy in Northampton" and "60 Miles By Road or Rail"—well, I ask you. Where Northampton leads, can Milton Keynes or Peterborough be far behind?

FINANCIAL NEWS

Stock markets

Hectic trading after news of North Sea gas finds

News of two major finds in the North Sea kept the market bubbling in oils yesterday and provided, probably for a short time, a firmer tone elsewhere. An early start had seen most dealers arrive on time for the start of trading, determined not to let the TC's day of action affect them. For the most part, they were well rewarded.

Once again, all eyes were firmly on the oil sector with the previous night's report of a major gas find in the North Sea had been followed by a similar one from BP. This set the pace for some hectic trading.

Sotheby's share price climbed 15p to 470p yesterday following the auction house's sale in New York where a record price was paid for a twentieth century painting. But it still faces a possible Office of Fair Trading investigation into its buyers' premium, depending on the results of the critical dealers' case which is currently in the courts.

ing, with prices moving swiftly ahead, particularly among the more speculative second-liners. In addition, reports, later confirmed, of a \$2 a barrel increase in the price of Saudi oil fuelled the fire.

But by the close the temptation to take profits proved all too much for some and most shares closed off the top.

Tuesday saw a similar pattern with oils continuing to receive favourable attention until late in the afternoon. At this point, the profit-takers moved in with most prices finishing off the top at the close. However, some gains were still in evidence, particularly among the more speculative second-liners.

Confirmation of its recent oil find in Hampshire drew renewed support for Carless Capel, up 10p to 158p, while its partner, in the venture Candecca, inched ahead another 4p to 166p.

Elsewhere in the market, confidence was beginning to return, helped by an overnight fall in prime rates in the United States and the buoyancy in oils.

ICI rose 12p to 392p among leading industrials, with Fisons

up 6p to 249p and Rediff & Coleman 3p to 172p. A number of major company announcements also provided a bright feature, with Woolworths dipping 4p to 56p, following sharply lower first-quarter figures, and UDS going 1p firmer to 69p after full-year results.

Also in stores, House of Fraser rose 4p to 149p, spurred on by a further wave of bid speculation, but MFI fell 4p to 57p in the wake of clearance for its bid for Status Discount, 3p up to 54p.

Equities had a better session inspired by the overnight rally on Wall St. But with most dealers worried about the

from their recent MLR disappointment, and rose a 4p to 43 across the board. However, the recent recovery had run its full course in oils by yesterday and the profit-takers had decided they had had enough. So after a fairly confident start, falls were predominant at the close. In oils, the falls were around the 4p mark, after earlier gains of between 4p and 6p, with the new "tap" Treasury 131 per cent, 1992, closing at par. At the shorter end, the falls were extended to a 4p overnight level.

Equities had a better session inspired by the overnight rally on Wall St. But with most dealers worried about the

journey home, all business had been completed by midday. As a result, the FT Index closed 3.1 up at 444.0, having been 3.3 higher at noon. Leading industrials had ICI 6p higher at 394p reflecting the group's Ninian Field interests. Others to gain ground included Glaxo at 190p, Fisons at 287p, BAT's at 243p, GEC at 367p and GKN at 269p, all 1p or 2p better.

Domestic again came in for attention with about 3m shares changing hands, most of which were thought to have made their way out to the Far East. The price remained unchanged at 70p. Despite the continued buying from Far Eastern investors, most observers continue to pour scorn on suggestions of any bid from Sime Darby.

But it was BP's gas find in the Norwegian sector of the North Sea, at block 30/4, which had been the main talking point with the share price racing ahead 14p to 354p.

Shell also continued to reflect its own gas strike in the North Sea, announced the previous evening, rising 4p to 384p after Norsk Hydro, its partners in the project, leaping 5p to 553p. Jobs remained fairly cautious about the find, pointing out that with Norwegian oil at 92 per cent and the gas still in the ground it would have to be a sizeable find to be profitable.

But speculators were undeterred. Shell leapt 9p to 393p, and Clyde jumped 8p to 576p. At the heavier end of the market, Petrofina advanced 24p to 880p.

The speculation did not stop there. I.C. rose 12p to 850p and Carwoods closed at 210p. Shares of Crest Nicholson

dipped, 4p to 101p after announcing a £2m cash-call to shareholders. Speculative interest boosted shares of Southampton and Isle of Wight 30p to 385p and Stag Line 7p to 167p, both in a thin market.

Speculative attention was also turned to the 23p higher at 475p, with takeover favourite, Mollison Denny 2p firmer at 72p.

In foods, Sainsbury hardened 10p to 346p after recent figures, while speculative attention boosted B. Matthews 23p to 343p. British Sugar's rejection of the approach from S. & W.

Speculators finally cottoned on to the fact yesterday that North West Mining's business was in oils, rather than metal as its name suggests. As a result the share price roared up 10p to 50p strengthened by the group's connection with Candecca, one of the Humbly Grove partners.

Berisford wiped 4p from the shares at 206p as the latter eased another 2p to 141p. Shares of Thomas Barthwick were also on offer, dropping 5p to 47p.

In stores, news that Lomha, up 4p to 85p, had picked up another large stake in House of Fraser did little for the shares.

Equity turnover on May 13 was £112.18m (13,452 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were BP, Shell, KCA International, Lomo, Ultramar, Consolidated Gold Fields, GEC, ICI, Marks & Spencer, Unilever, T. G. Barclays, BICC, Beecham and BAT's.

£2m rights issue by Crest to fund bid

Crest Nicholson, the housing, leisure and engineering group, has proposed a rights issue to raise £2m, which will be used for an acquisition of two private companies based in Scotland. The issue is on the basis of one-for-one shares at 50p, which gives a discount of 51p on last night's price of 101p. The shares dipped 4p after the announcement.

Crest's board also said that interim profits will be slightly ahead of last year's £1.6m and that the full-year results are expected to show significant growth. In 1979 the group made £4.3m pretax profit. The interim dividend is expected to be 2.85p gross on the existing share capital compared with 2.3p and a 10p increase in 1978.

The group is paying a maximum of £1.85m cash with an initial payment of £850,000 for 30 per cent of Sharnon (Wholesale Jewellers) and its associate R. and B. Baird which are based in Glasgow and form the largest wholesale jewellery group in Scotland. If profits for the three years to October 1983 exceed £1.83m, Crest will pay further amounts up to £1m. These additional payments will be made if average profits exceed £500,000. The companies made pretax profits of £424,000 in the year ending March 31, 1980.

Mr Charles Alexander and Mr Ronald Sher, will retain 10 per cent of the equity and remain as joint managing directors.

Maple's last defence against Waring bid

By Rosemary Unsworth
Maple Holdings, the furniture chain retailer, has issued a £9.7m bid from the retailer, Waring and Gilo. In a document to shareholders, Mr David Keys, Maple's chairman, said that the freehold and leasehold properties are now value for £11.5m or a surplus over the book value of £9.7m, of £1.8m. If the £1.8m value of freehold and fittings is included, inclusion pushes up net assets to some £11.5m or a share, he added.

Mr Keys also rejected Waring and Gilo's assertion that Maple has not provided a profits forecast. "11 weeks ago, we announced a

pretax profits of £1.4m for year to February 2, 1980 increase of 36 per cent last year. By contrast, Waring and Gilo's results for the months to September 30, showed a 15 per cent decline, and, although financial year ended on 31, 1980, they have given indication of their results the full year."

He also points out that if the £1.8m value of freehold and fittings is included, Waring and Gilo's results for the months to September 30, showed a 15 per cent decline, and, although financial year ended on 31, 1980, they have given indication of their results the full year."

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The growth of Unilever

Sir David Orr reflects on fifty years of progress and achievement at the Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 14th May, 1980.

This year Unilever celebrates its fiftieth birthday. It is a good opportunity to look back at the past and forward to the future, and to highlight the key elements of continuity and change which have dominated our history.

"In 1930 two large companies united to form one of the largest industrial groups in the world."

One of them, Lever Brothers, was a British company, predominantly concerned with soap; the other, the Margarine Union, had been formed by a combination of two great margarine businesses in the Netherlands, Van den Berghs and Jurgens. The founder families and the managers who forged the merger could hardly have predicted the economic disaster of the thirties and the world war which followed, but they had formed a company which had the strength to meet these crises. Unilever owes its existence today to their foresight and courage fifty years ago.

On its fiftieth birthday, Unilever is still one of the largest companies in the world. In a changing and often turbulent environment, no business can grow without the ability to look ahead, without being ready to change, and without a clear perception of the needs and requirements of its customers, of its employees, of its shareholders, of society and of governments.

"Efficient business is a dynamic force which not only responds to change but itself makes a positive contribution to change."

This is the very essence of private enterprise in its role of creating economic wealth. I am convinced that Unilever has made a real contribution to the improvement of the standard of living in many countries.

In 1930 only 20% of Unilever's net profit came from its activities outside Europe; this has now doubled to 40% - mainly through expansion in South America, Africa and Asia. There have been even more dramatic changes in the range of products which Unilever manufactures and sells. In 1930, soap and edible fats together provided 90% of Unilever's profits; today their contribution is no more than 40% of the total. We have developed our business in frozen foods and ice cream, and extended our interests in packaged soup and tea; in these four product fields we are now among the world's leading producers. We have also expanded in toilet preparations and in some of our industrial activities, such as packaging and chemicals.

"Developments in the political and social field have had an enormous impact on our business."

In Western Europe we have seen the birth and growth of the European Community. We in Unilever welcomed the Treaty of Rome and the concept of a common trading group because Western Europe is still Unilever's heartland; and its continuing prosperity is vital for us.

The United States has had a major influence on developments in Europe since the war - and we attach great importance to Unilever's performance there.

In a number of the developing countries rapid income growth has created new opportunities for us. In many cases the developing countries have traditionally been important sources of raw materials, such as oils and fats, to the Western world. With increasing affluence, the demand for such materials for local processing and consumption has grown at a far higher rate than local production - and, therefore, at the expense of exports.

"Three specific post-war developments have had considerable influence on making Unilever the kind of company it is today."

UAC - The United Africa Company - was originally a trading business with a history of more than 150 years. During the years after the second world war it became clear that the winds of political, economic, and social change were beginning to blow strongly in West Africa; and our management realised that the future for the traditional trading activities of UAC was bleak. At the same time they saw that the skill and experience of UAC and their knowledge of West Africa could be applied in new directions. They undertook with determination the huge tasks of re-deploying capital from trading to manufacturing investment and of re-training their people.

Today UAC International, as it is now called, is engaged in such diverse activities as brewing beer, manufacturing textiles, pharmaceutical products, foods, toiletries, timber and truck assembly. All this adds up to a story of imagination, entrepreneurial courage and success that has yielded great benefits to the countries of West Africa and to Unilever.

Unilever's most ambitious development into a new product field during its first half century was our entry into frozen foods. Until the war the process of quick freezing food products was virtually unknown outside North America. While Unilever had no experience in this field, we recognised the exciting potential for this form of convenience food; and shortly after the war we began to develop frozen food businesses in a number of European countries.

The project required substantial investment by Unilever in processing plant, cold stores and refrigerated transport - and in human effort. Return on this investment in the early years was very

low, while the risks were high. Today Unilever is the world's leading producer of frozen food and ice cream with a sales volume in Europe alone of well over £1,000 million, and with good prospects of continuing progress in sales and profitability.

A business depends upon people. Unilever had great pioneers, and today is proud of its reputation as an employer in the countries where it operates. In particular, we believe strongly in the importance of consulting people and involving them in decisions which affect their working environment.

The importance of good management to the business has always been recognised.

We aim to have a management team which is a truly international community of people with a common goal. The common goal is to run an efficient and profitable business; to serve our customers; and to carry out our responsibilities to our shareholders, our own employees and society as a whole.

"We believe that the quest for growth will be as vigorous in the next twenty years as in the past."

There are still many unsatisfied needs in the world, the fulfilment of which ultimately depends on economic growth. Throughout the world people will continue to seek a fuller life and a better standard of living.

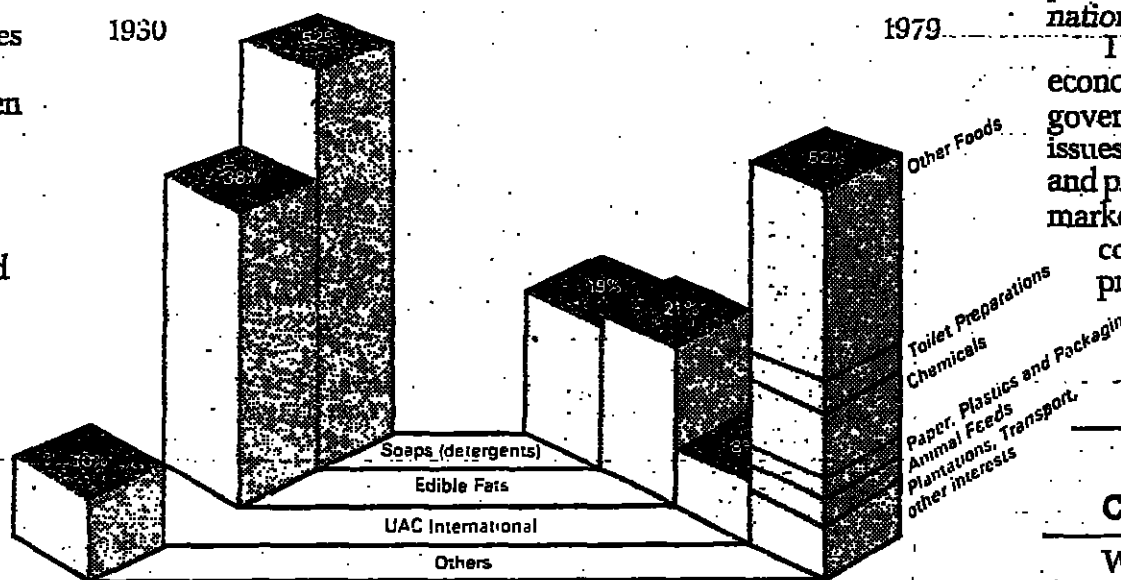
Nevertheless while there is no sign that the desire for growth has abated, the obstacles to it have become more daunting. We have seen dramatic upward leaps in the price of energy, widespread balance of payments problems, high levels of inflation, high rates of interest and tightness of money; and there is a revival in the trend towards more protectionism. All these factors point to a slowing down of the world economy. At the same time we are once again passing through a period of political unrest and upheaval on a national and international scale.

I believe that much can be done to improve the opportunity for economic growth. We need stronger co-operation between governments, industry and trade unions in facing up to the major issues. We need a re-balancing of expenditure between the public and private sectors. We need a greater acceptance of the kind of market conditions in which private industry can make its potential contribution to the economy. This is important because the profitability and financial strength of industry in a number of countries has been seriously weakened; this has taken its toll of industrial investment which is an essential ingredient of economic growth.

"In Unilever we face the future with confidence."

We believe we have the resources and ability to continue to turn opportunity into profitable results. We are confident that we can continue to meet the needs and desires of our consumers by improving the quality of existing products and launching new ones. We will maintain a powerful resource in research to give us the flow of innovation we need; and have the operational strength to translate it into commercial success. We feel confidence in our management, and in the efficiency and flexibility of our organisation. Our employee relations are on the whole excellent and our productivity shows continuous improvement. Our firmly based market position, diversity and geographical spread, are important sources of strength in a changing and uncertain world.

Over the past fifty years Unilever has had to meet many challenges successfully. I hope we will respond to the challenges of the future with the same vision, so that our successors will one day speak of us as I have been proud today to speak of those who went before us.



Products in the United Kingdom owned by Unilever in 1930 and still going strong

Margarines	Foods	Soaps
Blue Band 1912	Wall's 1786	Knight's Castle 1919
Echo 1912	John West Salmon 1884	Lifebuoy Domestic 1894
Stork 1901	Skippers c.1903	Lux Toilet 1928
		Pears 1789
		Sunlight 1884
Washing Products	Household Product	
Lux Flakes 1900	Vim 1904	
Omo 1909		
Persil 1909		
Personal Products		
Atkinsons Gold Medal Eau de Cologne and English Lavender c.1820		
Easy Shaving Stick c.1920		
Erasmic Shaving Stick c.1919		

50 Years of Anglo-Dutch Enterprise

Unilever

The Annual General Meeting of Unilever NV took place in Rotterdam on the same day. Mr. H. E. van den Bergh, Chairman of Unilever NV, presided and delivered the same speech as Sir David Orr in London. The Company has published a report made to the British Government under the E.E.C. Code of Conduct for companies with interests in South Africa. Copies of the report may be obtained from the address alongside.



If you would like to receive a copy of the full text of the speech please complete this coupon

To: Information Division, Unilever Limited, P.O. Box 61, Unilever House, London, EC4P 4BQ.

Name

Address

FINANCIAL NEWS

Tight money policy takes toll at Bank of Ireland

By Roman Eisenstein
Banking Correspondent
Stringent monetary policies in Ireland, coupled with lump-sum payments to staff on Irish entry into the European Monetary System, and the break of parity between sterling and the Irish punt, have resulted in lower profits for the Bank of Ireland, the country's largest bank. For the year to the end of March the Bank of Ireland made pre-tax profits of £2.2m, Irish punts against 48.7m Irish punts. After tax and minorities, the net profit is only slightly up from 22m punts compared to 23m punts.

The preliminary statement says that results from leasing subsidiaries were well down because of the high level of lending at fixed-interest rates at a time when rates were moving up. This was particularly true for the second half of the year.

The amount charged for lump payments to staff following Irish entry into the EMS and the break of parity with sterling amounted to £6.2m. But for that, pre-tax profits would have been almost unchanged. The total dividend for the year is up from 17.5p to 19p.

One of the problems with Irish banking has been credit control policies followed by the Central Bank of Ireland. The autumn quarterly bulletin from the Bank states that, following excess lending, nine banks were obliged to place supplementary deposits with the Central Bank. The Bulletin says "it was decided to increase the rates charged on such accommodation".

The monetary restriction, together with lump sums payments, were two of the factors depressing profits. Share interest rates start falling during the year the instalment credit business of the Bank of Ireland should show better results, and the bank itself could benefit from the lifting of credit restrictions.

Record year for BMW

Bayerische Motoren Werke AG (BMW), the West German maker of high-performance cars, will produce and sell more vehicles in 1980 than in 1979, according to the chairman, Herr Eberhard von Kuenheim.

He predicted that BMW's 1980 sales and production would top the record 1979 levels, when the company increased its net earnings by 16.2 per cent to a record DM175m (about £41m) from DM150.6m in 1978.

Because of the higher earnings, BMW raised its 1979 dividend to DM10 per DM50 nominal share from DM9 in 1978.

Worldwide sales totalled DM7,407bn in 1979, up 13 per cent from 1978, while car production totalled 336,981 units, up 5 per cent from 1978.

Export deliveries totalled 172,361 units, up 5.3 per cent, while domestic deliveries totalled 162,271 units in 1979, up 3.3 per cent.

Sales of the parent company BMW AG, rose 10.1 per cent to DM6,566bn in 1979, the company said.

Herr Von Kuenheim reported that in the first four months of 1980, BMW produced 137,000 cars, up 5 per cent from the similar 1979 period. This compared to a decline of 7 per cent in overall West German car production in the same period, the BMW chairman said.

He said that exports climbed 13 per cent to 71,000 units, but domestic registrations of new BMWs were down 9 per cent to 56,000 units as of April.

The BMW chief indicated that the company was counting on continued growth of export sales in order to boost 1980 sales and production above the 1979 levels.

The company plans to increase its fixed asset investments to over DM700m this year compared with DM472.8m in 1979.

International

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Bulmer and Lumb profits fall by 55 pc

Worsted spinner Bulmer & Lumb (Holdings) is increasing the final dividend by a tenth to leave the total for the year to March 30 up by 8 per cent to 4.45p gross, despite a sharp drop in profits.

After falling by nearly a quarter in the interim stage, the downward slide accelerated in the second half and full-year profits were 55 per cent lower at £10.1m before tax.

Group turnover in the year to March 30 was up in value by only 2 per cent at £26.4m. The group has suffered from falling volume sales while profit margins have also come under pressure.

Pre-interest profit margins slipped from 9.9 per cent to 5.9 per cent.

Pre-tax profits were also reduced by a turnaround from interest receivable of £54,000 to a net charge of £10,000 in 1979-80. This reflects the greater use of bank facilities due to the group's sizable capital investment and re-equipment programme.

The depreciation charge was also up sharply from £353,000 to £515,000.

The group has made a £430,000 provision for taxation under entirely of tax deferred by capital allowances and stock appreciation relief. No tax is payable in respect of the year's profits.

Earnings per share were down from 12.5p to 6.7p, but the net dividend was still covered more than one and a half times.

Bulmer & Lumb has decided to close down its Jersey knitting operations, Supima Textiles, which has been in difficulty for some time because of the over-capacity in this section of the textiles industry.

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RHM's Bakery turnaround

Food group Ranks Hovis McDougall (RHM) is still busy putting its house in order. Problem areas remain, but profits are on the increase.

Operating profits for the six months to March 1, 1980, were nearly 65m up on the previous period at £38.3m, but higher interest and other costs reduced that increase to less than 4m, with interim pretax profits of £30.2m—up almost a quarter.

The interim dividend has gone up just under 7 per cent. Group sales rose £57m to £740m.

The improvement came from the bakery division, now back in profit after the bakery strike which caused substantial losses in 1978-79. The grocery division

suffered increasingly from growing pressure on margins and lower sales volume, after last year's record performance. The agriculture division did better, although it has recently run into weak demand for seeds, with the current drought making sowing difficult for the farmers. Demand for compound feeds has also weakened.

Overseas interests continue to do well, in spite of unfavourable exchange rates. But the Ranks Ireland subsidiary has turned in a £74,000 loss (Irish punts).

RHM has moved its head office from South-west London to Windsor and let the old head office, from the City to the British Gas Corporation, at

"close to" the asking price of £1.25m a year. The cost of move and the closure of a Manchester bakery will be up in the second half's figures. Rationalization costs in the half came to £406,000.

Borrowings have risen in the September year-end interest costs reached £9.4m in the first half, up £2.9m, are likely to rise further, short-term borrowings to cut before bank base rates rise to 17 per cent have just been renegotiated at current rates.

The board has warned a second half profits will show a small improvement last year's £30.1m pre-tax profit was around £41m the full year.

Deutsche BP is considering plans to offer some of its shares, currently fully-owned by its parent, British Petroleum, on the West German Stock Market, Herr Helmut Buddenberg, chairman of the management board of BP's West German unit was quoted as saying on Wednesday. The move is in line with the group's stated policy of increasing local participation.

In an interview with *Financial Times*, a publication concentrating on energy-related matters, Herr Buddenberg was quoted as saying that such a move had already been "cleared" with BP's headquarters in London. Deutsche BP has nominal stock capital of DM1.1bn.

Should the Deutsche BP plans ever materialize, it would mark the first time that a major multinational oil group is offering shares of its West German unit to the public in West Germany.

In his interview, as reported by the *Bonn energy publication*, Herr Buddenberg left open the question of when shares would be available on the stock market.

He said that offering Deutsche BP stock to the public would be a long-term consideration but a decision is not expected in the near future, the spokesman stated.

At Deutsche BP's headquarters in Hamburg, a company spokesman warned against drawing any premature conclusions from Herr Buddenberg's remarks as to the availability of the company stocks to the market. While he would not deny that the possibility of offering some Deutsche BP shares was being considered, he stated that the matter was still "totally undecided"—and that the British parent had not cleared any such plans.

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He said that offering Deutsche BP stock to the public would be a long-term consideration but a decision is not expected in the near future, the spokesman stated.

At Deutsche BP's headquarters in Hamburg, a company spokesman warned against drawing any premature conclusions from Herr Buddenberg's remarks as to the availability of the company stocks to the market. While he would not deny that the possibility of offering some Deutsche BP shares was being considered, he stated that the matter was still "totally undecided"—and that the British parent had not cleared any such plans.

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Booth (International) passes final after loss

Hide merchant and tanner, Booth (International) Holdings, has passed its final dividend, after pre-tax losses of £80,000 in 1979 and an attributable loss of £400,000 after extraordinary debits—in spite of sales £7.7m higher at £40.1m. The pre-tax loss would have been greater but for profits from associates of £82,000, up from £39,000.

Hide-rawstock prices first rose dramatically and then collapsed during 1979, making life very difficult for the tanners and leather goods makers. Rising interest rates made matters worse. Booth acts as a merchant of raw hides to British and overseas customers as well as tanning leather.

Booth decided to make provisions of £350,000 against its 1979 year-end stock holdings as rawstock prices continued falling in 1980. On top of that, it decided to close one of its two Nottingham tanneries.

The closure costs of £434,000 are shown as an extraordinary debit after a tax credit of £114,000. At the interim stage, Booth announced that one of its tanneries was having a difficult time.

The current year has begun badly with rawstock prices still falling. First-half profits will not show any improvement on last year's loss incurred in the second half of 1979—which was some £455,000 pre-tax after including profits from associates. But if rawstock prices level out at their present levels, leather goods will be more competitive and the current pressure on profit margins should ease.

Jessups' half-time deficit

East London-based car dealer, Jessups (Holdings) has swung into the red in the half-year to February 29. From a profit of £372,000 last time, the company turned to a loss of £77,000. Turnover rose from £13.1m to £16.3m.

The two reasons are "intolerably high interest rates" and difficulties in the car market. With car production levels high and most cars now freely available margins have been squeezed.

The problems are continuing and the board does not therefore expect an early return to the previous levels of profit. But, as a sign of long term confidence, the board have declared an unchanged interim dividend of 1.43p gross.

Tax rise hits UDS, but dividend raised

Fashion and furniture groups, UDS felt the pinch in 1979 after the June budget increase in VAT and profits from three of its four divisions fell.

As a result, group pretax profits for the year to February 2, 1980, were £3.7m less than in the previous year, at £24.1m. Fortunately, the exports and overseas division did better in spite of the strength of sterling and produced record results. It contributed £58.7m to group sales of £445m, against £52.9m of £385.6m sales the previous year. VAT added a further £13m to the 1979-80 turnover figure shown.

Thanks to extraordinary credits, after tax from property deals, the final dividend has been increased to give an overall rise on the year of 10 per cent, and a yield of 12.9 per cent at 69p a share.

The multiple retailing division, which includes the John Galt menswear shops, Richard Shops, and Grand Furnishings, saw disappointing sales in women's fashions but better demand for footwear. The divisions total sales rose £24.1m to £156.1m. Building work at three department stores in the Bromley, Sutton and Cardiff—led to a reduction in lower profits in that division. Sales rose £16.5m to £116.4m.

In home shopping, mail order sales were up 18 per cent, but overall sales rose less steeply from £101.7m to £113.7m, as

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FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

It was a mixed day for commodities. Afternoon prices were mixed, with oil and sugar leading the way. The oil market was particularly active, with prices for various grades of oil fluctuating. Sugar prices also showed significant movement, with some grades seeing a decline while others held steady. Other commodities like wheat and cotton also saw price adjustments throughout the day.

Discount market

The discount houses managed with help of a much more modest sum yesterday. The Bank of England bought Treasury bills and local authority bills outright from the houses. Rates for secured money opened around 17 per cent, but uniformed soon evaporated, and the session was still young when bids for fresh funds could be found anywhere between 14 per cent and 17 per cent and they yielded a good deal over the rest of the day, moving about between a low point of 16 per cent and a top level of 18 per cent during the afternoon.

Sterling Spot and Forward

Market rates for sterling were mixed. The spot rate for sterling against the dollar was around 2.27, while forward rates for various periods showed a slight premium. The pound sterling market was active, with traders monitoring the balance of payments and the impact of monetary policy on the exchange rate.

Sterling: Other Markets

Other markets for sterling showed mixed activity. The gold market was particularly notable, with prices for various grades of gold fluctuating. The silver market also saw some movement, with prices for different types of silver coins and bars. The foreign exchange market for other currencies like the Swiss franc and the German mark also showed some volatility.

Dollar Spot Rates

Dollar spot rates for various currencies were reported. The dollar against the pound sterling was at 2.27, while the dollar against the Swiss franc was at 1.53. Other dollar rates for currencies like the Japanese yen and the Australian dollar were also listed. The dollar market was generally stable, with some minor fluctuations in the forward rates.

Wall Street

New York, May 14. Stocks on the New York Stock Exchange were broadly higher in heavy trading late in the session led by takeover issues and the glamour and growth sectors. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 2.73 points to 819.62. Advances led declines five to two on volume of over 38 million shares.

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Money Market

Money market rates were mixed. The Bank of England's base rate was at 17 per cent. The discount rate was at 14 per cent. The overnight rate was at 16 per cent. The 3-month rate was at 17 per cent. The 6-month rate was at 18 per cent. The 12-month rate was at 19 per cent. The money market was active, with traders monitoring the balance of payments and the impact of monetary policy on the interest rates.

Derivative profits recovery

Derivative profits recovery was seen in the Midlands-based drop-forgings group. The group had a profit recovery of 41 per cent in the 12 months to February 29, 1979. The group's profits were £1.75m, but last February, the group sold its loss-making Blackheath Stamping drop-forging subsidiary to Armstrong Equipment in a £500,000 deal. The group said yesterday that demand for its products associated with the automotive industry had slackened.

Euro-syndicate

The Euro-syndicate index on European share prices was put provisionally on May 13 against 132.57 a week earlier. The index was up 0.12 points to 132.69. The Euro-syndicate index was a measure of the performance of European share prices, and it was used by investors to track the performance of their investments in Europe.

Recent Issues

Recent issues of shares and bonds were listed. The issues included shares in various companies like the British Petroleum, the Shell, and the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company. The issues also included bonds issued by the government and by various companies. The issues were listed with their respective prices and the names of the issuing companies.

Options

Options trading was active. The continued buoyancy among oil shares was a factor in the recovery of oil options. The options were traded at various prices, and the recovery was seen in the price of the options. The options were used by investors to hedge their investments in oil shares.

Euro-Deposits

Euro-deposit rates were reported. The rates for various currencies like the pound sterling, the Swiss franc, and the German mark were listed. The rates were generally stable, with some minor fluctuations. The Euro-deposit rates were used by investors to track the performance of their investments in Euro-deposits.

Gold

Gold prices were reported. The prices for various grades of gold were listed. The prices were generally stable, with some minor fluctuations. The gold prices were used by investors to track the performance of their investments in gold.

Silver

Silver prices were reported. The prices for various grades of silver were listed. The prices were generally stable, with some minor fluctuations. The silver prices were used by investors to track the performance of their investments in silver.

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PERSONAL CHOICE



Dawn Porter and Ian Hendry as the married couple the serial For Maddy with Love (ITV, 1.30)

The Omnibus dramatized portrait We Think the World of u (BBC 1, 10.05) explains what happened to Joe Ackley, the moosehead son of Roger Ackley, the "Banana King" whose extraordinary double life was reconstructed in William Trevor's (y) Secret Orchards. What happened was that the scion became a very good doctor and continued along his moosehead path until he acquired an Albanian bitch whose high-hearted, uncritical devotion (as Ackley put it) — re-shaped him into a lonely and unfulfilled existence. It was a strange trip, that led to a kind of marriage and Ackley charted its progress in his infinitely touching autobiographical novel (re-titled as tonight's film) now published by Bodley Head. "The film is woven out of the book and Ackley's life, I think you ought to see it because it is very sensitively

What sets Max Boyce apart from his joke-monger contemporaries is that he has a fond of, funny stories, invariably in, and he tells them with a sense of improvisational invention you would swear was not simulated. You can see it tonight, in excellent form (BBC 1, 8.25), performing in front of a worshipping audience in Plymouth. Some of his tales even schoolboys: they might be apocryphal but they could all well be true — and therein lies their strength: the daily e of halibut oil capsules, the only food thing about which was they were shaped like a rugby ball, and the after-games, more, but his songs — most of them his own work — can bring up to the throat when they treat of the valleys and hills of his native Wales, and the outrageous and shrewd and comical racters who inhabit them.

an elad that Radio 4 is repeating its Thurbur anthology onch of Thurbur (7.30), respectfully devised by Leslie Glazer is also one of the performers. The items include the final text of The Secret Life of Walter Mitty, later vulgarized Danu Kaye film. Another of tonight's performers is the y Sheila Steafel, one of radio's few genuinely funny women, only can you also hear her today in The Jason Explanation (10.4, 12.27) but every Friday night in Week Ending.

AT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: (STEREO); (BLACK AND WHITE); REPEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

by Peter Dear

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 am Open University: Talking about cuts; 7.05 The development of fresco. Closedown at 7.30.
9.45 For Schools. Colleges: Science All Around (looking at animals); 10.19 Merry-Go-Round (Orchestra); 10.35 Scene: (In Spite of their Deafness); 11.05 News and Far (Office Moves Out). All repeats. Closedown at 11.25.
12.45 News and weather.
1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Interview with Hollywood actor Yul Brynner, now on the London stage in The King and I. Also, a six-man expedition that is doing research into earthquakes.
1.45 Mr Benn: The Program (r): 2.00 You and Me: Pre-reading programme for children. A Day in the Country.
2.15 For Schools. Colleges: Music Time (as the first); 2.40 Television Club (Danger). Both repeats.
3.55 Play School: Martin Fisher's story Mr Fox's Photographs; 4.20 The All New Popeye Show: cartoon featuring the famous sailor and his girl-friend Olive

BBC 2

6.40 Open University: Maths-Fourier Coefficients; 7.05 BART car. Closedown at 7.30.
11.00 Play School: Same as BBC 1.
3.55 Closedown at 11.25.
4.50 Open University: Ubu Roi; 5.40 Stantony: a blueprint analysis; 6.00 Women of the World; 6.30 Inflation; 6.55 MacLeod's America: Pebble Mill at One presenter Danny MacLeod visits the Canyon de Chelly, Arizona homeland of the Navajo Indians where he finds a people still recovering from a holocaust of a century ago.
7.15 News: with sub-titles for the hard of hearing.
7.30 Newsweek: David Jessel focuses on French foreign policy in the light of disillusionment

THAMES

9.30 Schools: Making a Living; 10.00 Good Health; 10.25 The French Programme; 10.45 Experiment: physics; 11.05 Music Round (music for films); 11.27 Sealings and Doung (alpine and boat); 11.44 Picture Box (end of Game 2).
12.00 Gammon and Spinch: with Roy Kinnear; 12.10 Stepping Stones: a quiz; 12.15 Stepping Stones: a quiz; 12.15 Stepping Stones: a quiz.
12.30 The Sullivan: Australian family saga.
1.00 News; 1.20 Thames News.
1.30 For Maddy with Love: Nyeen Dawn Porter as the sick wife in a drama serial. With Ian Hendry.
2.00 After Noon Plus: The results of a study carried out by the Netherlands, of the psychological effects on people taken hostage in terrorist attacks.

WAVELENGTHS: Radio 1 medium wave 735m/1089kHz or 265m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 133m/693kHz and 98.9 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90.3 VHF. Radio 4 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90.3 VHF. Radio 5 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90.3 VHF. Radio 6 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90.3 VHF. Radio 7 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90.3 VHF. Radio 8 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90.3 VHF. Radio 9 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90.3 VHF. Radio 10 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90.3 VHF. Radio 11 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90.3 VHF. Radio 12 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90.3 VHF. Radio 13 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90.3 VHF. Radio 14 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90.3 VHF. Radio 15 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90.3 VHF. Radio 16 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90.3 VHF. Radio 17 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90.3 VHF. Radio 18 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90.3 VHF. Radio 19 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90.3 VHF. Radio 20 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90.3 VHF. Radio 21 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90.3 VHF. 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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING STARTS HERE

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- APPOINTMENTS 27
- BUSINESS TO BUSINESS 27
- DOMESTIC SITUATIONS 27
- EDUCATIONAL 27
- ENTERTAINMENT 27
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- FOR SALE 27
- HOLIDAY AND VILLAS 27
- LA CREME DE LA CREME 27
- LEGAL NOTICES 27
- MOTOR CARS 27
- PROPERTY 27
- PUBLIC NOTICES 27
- RENTALS 27
- SECRETARIAL AND NON-SECRETARIAL 27
- APPOINTMENTS 27
- SERVICES 27
- WANTED 27

For more information on the above and to place an advertisement in any of these categories, see the list of private advertisers on page 28.

- PRIVATE ADVERTISERS ONLY 01-837 3311
- APPOINTMENTS 01-278 9161
- PROPERTY ESTATE AGENTS 01-278 9231
- PERSONAL TRADE 01-278 9351
- MANCHESTER OFFICE 061-534 1234

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PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD. We make every effort to avoid errors in advertisements. Each one is carefully checked and proof read. When thousands of advertisements are handled each day mistakes do occur and we ask you to check your ad, if you spot an error, report it to the Classifieds Department immediately by telephoning 01-837 1234 (Ext. 1100). We regret that we cannot be responsible for more than one day's incorrect insertion if you do not.

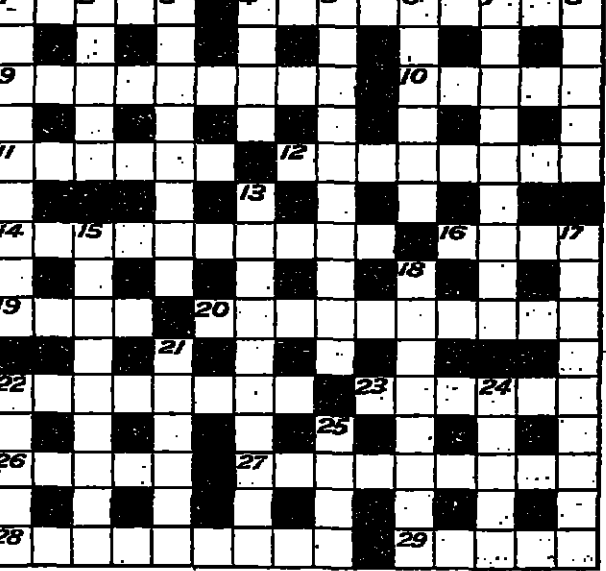
THE DEADLINE FOR ALL COPY IS 24 HOURS. Alterations to copy 3.00 pm prior to the day of publication. For Monday's issue the deadline is 12 noon Saturday. On all cancellations a Stop Number will be issued to the advertiser. On any subsequent queries regarding the cancellation, this Stop Number must be quoted.

LET nothing be done through spite or jealousy, but in love and kindness to one another, as the Lord loves himself. Philippians 2:1

- BIRTHS**
AINLEY—On May 14th, at George's Hospital, London, a son, William D. C. Ainsley, to Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Ainsley.
ALLAN—On May 14th, at The Queen's Hospital, London, a son, William D. C. Allan, to Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Allan.
BURGESS—On May 14th, at The Queen's Hospital, London, a son, William D. C. Burgess, to Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Burgess.
FRANCIS—On May 14th, at The Queen's Hospital, London, a son, William D. C. Francis, to Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Francis.
FRANCIS—On May 14th, at The Queen's Hospital, London, a son, William D. C. Francis, to Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Francis.
FRANCIS—On May 14th, at The Queen's Hospital, London, a son, William D. C. Francis, to Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Francis.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,223

This puzzle, used at the York regional final of the Cutty Sark Times National Crossword Championship, was solved within 30 minutes by 61 per cent of the finalists.



- ACROSS**
 1 Poor farce has staggering effect (5).
 2 Such is the outcome of the trial (9).
 3 Way home from inn (9).
 4 Terror of a heathen god (5).
 5 Garages horses well in the history (6).
 6 Action about drink runs its course (10).
 7 Ancient, excited arithmetician (4, 6).
 8 Game of note, or otherwise (4).
 9 Boat makes Land's End, by what means? (4).
 10 Its order gives priority (10).
 11 Job opportunities to interest chess players (8).
 12 Log in numbers (6).
 13 What a joint to find a bishop in (5).
 14 Great slant (4).
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Solution of Puzzle No 15,222

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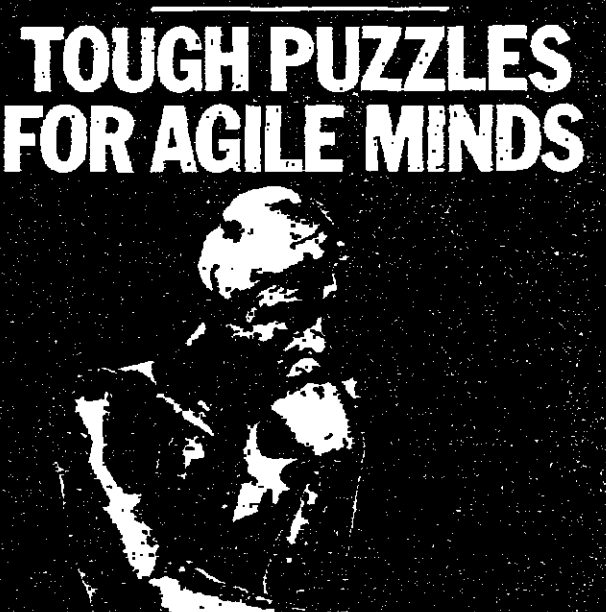
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CHelsea FOOTBALL CLUB

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 A limited number of fully equipped boxes now available for rent. Up to 7 seats, carpeted, TV, air conditioning, bar, fridge, car parking, bus service, entertaining and dining facilities in 240 seat restaurant.
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We still have a few early season vacancies to the C islands on the following departure dates:
 21 and 28 May, B & B, £115, 1 wk; £125, 2 wks.
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 COSTA BLANCA 14 nights FB 31 May, 7 June £145
 TRIZA 7 nights FB 31 May, 7 June £145
 CORFU 14 nights FB 31 May, 7 June £145
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 Fly-drive from £140pp for 2 wks for up to 3 people.
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 Tel: 01-250 1355/251 3720
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 Take advantage of these bargains and enjoy a Supertravel holiday with a choice of Self-Catering, or serviced villas. CORFU, CRETE, PATMOS, SYROS, MYKONOS, ANDROS, NAXOS, KEA, POROS. Villa, taverna, hotel, camping and sailing holidays. Extra value £20 discount off brochure prices for a departure up to 11th July booked from now until May 31. Phone TODAY for availability and brochure.
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DO THE RED SEA SIZZLE

Warm summer sea, desert oasis
 AQABA
 Refreshingly primitive and very hot. Cost from only few seats left in May, June and July, Friday departure scheduled for Heathrow. No surcharges.
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